

LONDON:

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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

THE QUEEN AND ROYAL FAMILY.

THE QUEEN.—VICTORIA, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland Queen, Defender of the Faith, was born at Kensington Palace, May 24th, 1819; succeeded to the throne June 20th, 1837, on the death of her uncle, King William IV.; was crowned June 28th, 1838; and married, February 10th, 1840, his Royal Highness Prince Albert. Her Majesty is the only child of his late Royal Highness Edward Duke of Kent, son of King George III.

His Royal Highness Francis ALBERT-Augustus-Charles-Emanuel-Busici, DUKE OF SAXE, PRINCE OF COBURG AND GOTHA, K.G., Consort of her Majesty, born August 26th, 1819.

The children of her Majesty are:—
Her Royal Highness Victoria-Adelaide-Mary-Louisa, PRINCESS ROYAL, born November 21st, 1840.

His Royal Highness Albert-Edward, PRINCE OF WALES, born November 9th, 1841.

Her Royal Highness Alice Maud-Mary, born April 25th, 1843.
His Royal Highness Alfred-Ernest Albert, born August 6th, 1844.
Her Royal Highness Helena-Augusta-Victoria, born May 25th, 1846.
Her Royal Highness Louisa-Carolina-Alberta, born March 15th, 1848.
His Royal Highness Arthur-William-Patrick-Albert, born May 1st, 1850.
His Royal Highness Leopold-George-Duncan-Albert, born April 7, 1853.
Her Royal Highness Beatrice-Mary-Victoria-Feodore, born April 14, 1857.

George-Frederick-William-Charles, K.G., DUKE OF CAMBRIDGE, cousin to her Majesty, born March 26th, 1819.

Victoria-Mary-Louisa, DUCHESS OF KENT, her Majesty's mother, born August 17th, 1786; married, in 1818, to the Duke of Kent, who died January 23rd, 1820.

Augusta-Wilhelmina-Louisa, DUCHESS OF CAMBRIDGE, niece of the Landgrave of Hesse, born July 25th, 1795; married, in 1818, the late Duke of Cambridge, by whom she has issue George-William, Augusta-Caroline, and Mary-Adelaide.

George-Frederick-Alexander-Charles-Ernest-Augustus, K.G., KING OF HANOVER, cousin to her Majesty, born May 27th, 1819; married, February, 1843, Princess Mary of Saxe-Altenburg, and has a son.

Augusta-Caroline-Charlotte-Elizabeth-Mary-Sophia-Louisa, daughter of the late Duke of Cambridge, and cousin to her Majesty, born July 19th, 1822; married, June 28th, 1843, Frederick, Hereditary Grand Duke of Mecklenburg-Strelitz.

Mary-Adelaide-Wilhelmina-Elizabeth, daughter of the late Duke of Cambridge, and cousin to her Majesty, born November 27th, 1833.

THE QUEEN'S HOUSEHOLD.

Lord Great Chamberlain	Lord Willoughby D'Eresby.
Lord Steward	Earl Spencer.
Lord Chamberlain	Marquis of Breadalbane.
Vice-Chamberlain	Lord E. A. C. B. Bruce.
Master of the Horse	Duke of Wellington.
Clerk Marshal and Chief Equerry ..	Lord Alfred Paget.
Treasurer of the Household	Earl of Mulgrave.
Comptroller of the Household	Viscount Drumlanrig.
Lord High Almoner	Bishop of Oxford.
Sub-Almoner	Rev. Dr. Jeff.
Clerk of the Closet	Bishop of Chester.
Master of the Buckhounds	Earl of Bessborough.
Comptroller of Accounts	Norman Hilton Macdonald, Esq.
Master of the Household	Lieut.-Colonel T. M. Biddulph.
Captain of the Yeomen of the Guard	Viscount Sydney.
Captain of Gentlemen-at-Arms ..	Lord Foley.
Lords in Waiting	Lord Camoys, Earl Somers, Lord Rivers, Lord Waterpark, Lord De Tabley, Earl of Listowel, Lord Byron, Lord Dufferin and Clanboye
Mistress of the Robes	The Duchess of Sutherland.
Ladies of the Bedchamber	Duchess of Wellington, Duchess of Atholl, Lady Churchill, Countess of Desart, Countess of Gainsborough, Viscountess Jocelyn, and Marchioness of Ely.
Physicians	Sir J. Clark, Sir H. Holland.
Physicians-Accoucheurs	Dr. Locock, Dr. Ferguson.
Surgeons	Sir B.C. Brodie, Bart., R. Keate, Esq.

HER MAJESTY'S MINISTERS.

First Lord of the Treasury (Premier)	Viscount Palmerston.
Lord Chancellor	Lord Cranworth.
Lord President of the Council ..	Earl Granville.
Lord Privy Seal	Earl of Harrowby.
Secretaries of State { Home	Right Hon. Sir George Grey.
{ Foreign	Earl of Clarendon.
{ Colonial	Right Hon. H. Labouchere, M.P.
Chancellor of the Exchequer ..	Right Hon. Sir G. C. Lewis.
President of the Board of Control ..	Right Hon. R. V. Smith.
First Lord of the Admiralty ..	Right Hon. Sir C. Wood.
Secretary-at-War	Lord Panmure.
Commissioner of Public Works ..	Right Hon. Sir Benjamin Hall.
Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster	Right Hon. M. T. Baines, M.P.
Without office	Marquis of Lansdowne.

(The above form the Cabinet.)

President of the Board of Trade ..	Lord Stanley of Alderley.
Postmaster-General	Duke of Argyll.
Attorney-General	Sir R. Bethell.
Solicitor-General	Sir H. S. Keating.
Chief Commis. of Poor Law Board ..	Right Hon. E. P. Bouverie, M.P.
President of General Board of Health	Right Hon. W. F. Cowper, M.P.
General Commanding in Chief ..	H.R.H. the Duke of Cambridge.

IRELAND.

Lord Lieutenant, Earl of Carlisle.
Lord Chancellor, Rt. Hon. M. Brady
Chief Secretary, Rt. Hon. H.A. Herbert
Attorney-General, J. D. Fitzgerald.
Solicitor-General, Jonath Christian.

SCOTLAND.

Lord High Constable, the Earl of Erroll.
Lord Privy Seal, ———
Lord Advocate, Right Hon. James Moncreiff.

CITY OFFICERS.

LORD MAYOR.

The Right Hon. Sir ROBERT WALTER CARDEN (Dowgate Ward, 1849).
Elected September 29th—Sworn in November 9th.

SHERIFFS.

Alderman William Lawrence. | William Fernley Allen, Esq.

UNDER-SHERIFFS.

Thomas Parker, Esq. | J. J. Millard, Esq.

CHAMBERLAIN.

Sir John Key, Bart. Elected 1853.

RECORDER.

Russell Gurney, Esq., Q.C.

ALDERMEN.

THE FOLLOWING HAVE PASSED THE CHAIR.

Laurie, Sir Peter, Knt.	Aldersgate	1826
Farebrother, Charles, Esq. ..	Lime-street	1826
Copeland, William Taylor, Esq. ..	Bishopsgate	1829
Wilson, Samuel, Esq.	Bridge Without Ward	1831
Marshall, Sir Chapman, Knt. ..	Bridge Within	1832
Humphery, John, Esq.	Aldgate	1835
Carroll, Sir George	Candlewick	1840
Duke, Sir James	Farringdon Without	1840
Farncombe, Thomas, Esq. ..	Bassishaw	1840
Musgrove, Sir John, Bart. ..	Broad-street	1842
Challis, Thomas, Esq.	Cripplegate	1843
Sidney, Thomas, Esq.	Billinggate	1844
Moon, Sir Francis Graham, Bart.	Portoken	1844
Salomons, David, Esq.	Cordwainer	1848
Thomas Quesed Finniss	Tower Ward	1848

THE FOLLOWING HAVE NOT PASSED THE CHAIR.

Wire, David Williams, Esq. ..	Walbrook	1851
Cubitt, William, Esq.	Langbourne	1851
Muggeridge, Sir Henry, Kt. ..	Castle Baynard	1851
Kennedy, Richard H., Esq. ..	Cheap	1851
Carter, John, Esq.	Cornhill	1854
Rose, William Anderson, Esq. ..	Queenhithe	1854
Lawrence, William, Esq. ..	Bread-street	1855
W. S. Hale, Esq.	Coleman-street	1856
Benj. Samuel Phillips, Esq. ..	Farringdon Within	1857
Thomas Gabriel, Esq.	Vintry	1857

EAST INDIA COMPANY.

DIRECTORS.

CHAIRMAN—R. D. Mangles, Esq., M.P.

DEPUTY CHAIRMAN—Sir Frederick Currie, Bart.

Charles Mills, Esq.	William Joseph Eastwick, Esq.
Russell Ellice, Esq.	John Harvey Astell, Esq.
William Butterworth Bayley, Esq.	Henry Thoby Prinsep, Esq.
John Shepherd, Esq.	John Pollard Willoughby, Esq.
Martin Tucker Smith, Esq., M.P.	Lieut.-Col. Sir H. C. Rawlinson.
Sir Henry Wilcock, K.L.S.	Major-General R. J. H. Vivian.
Sir James Weir Hogg, Bart., M.P.	Sir Laurence Peel.
Elliot Macnaghten, Esq.	

BANK OF ENGLAND.

GOVERNOR—Sheffield Neave, Esq.

DEPUTY GOVERNOR—Bonamy Dobree, Esq.

DIRECTORS.

Thomas Baring, Esq.	Kirkman Daniel Hodgson, Esq.
Henry Wollaston Blake, Esq.	Henry Lancelot Holland, Esq.
Travers Buxton, Esq.	John Gellibrand Hubbard, Esq.
Edward Henry Chapman, Esq.	Thomas Newman Hunt, Esq.
Robert Wigram Crawford, Esq.	Alfred Latham, Esq.
William Cotton, Esq.	George Lyall, Esq.
Benjamin Buck Greene, Esq.	Thomas Masterman, Esq.
Charles Pascoe Grenfell, Esq.	Alexander Matheson, Esq.
Henry Huicks Gibbs, Esq.	James Morris, Esq.
Thomson Hankey, Esq.	George Warde Norman, Esq.
John Oliver Hanson, Esq.	Thomas Charles Smith, Esq.
John Benjamin Heath, Esq.	Thomas Matthias Weguelin, Esq.

LAW COURTS.

CHANCERY.—Lord High Chancellor: Lord Cranworth. Lord Justices of Appeal: Sir James L. Knight Bruce, Knt., Sir George J. Turner, Knt., D.C.L. Master of the Rolls: Sir John Romilly, Knt. Vice-Chancellors: Sir Richard Kindersley, Knt., Sir J. Stuart, Knt., Sir W. P. Wood, Knt. **QUEEN'S BENCH.**—Lord Chief Justice: Lord Campbell. Judges: Sir John T. Coleridge, Knt., Sir Wm. Wightman, Knt., Sir Wm. Erie, Knt., Sir Charles Crompton, Knt. **COMMON PLEAS.**—Lord Chief Justice: Sir Alexander J. E. Cockburn, Knt. Judges: Sir C. Cresswell, Knt., Sir Edward Vaughan Williams, Knt., Sir Richard Budden Crowder, Knt., Sir James Shaw Willes. **EXCHEQUER.**—Lord Chief Baron: Sir Frederick Pollock. Barons: Sir W. H. Watson, Sir Samuel Martin, Sir G. Bramwell, Sir W. F. Channell.

COURT OF BANKRUPTCY.

London.—Joshua Evans, Esq., John Samuel Martin Fonblanque, Esq., Robert George Cecil Fane, Esq., Edward Holroyd, Esq., Edward Gouburn, D.C.L., Serjeant-at-Law. Birmingham.—John Balguy, Esq., Q.C. Liverpool.—Richard Stevenson, Esq., and H. J. Perry, Esq. Manchester.—Walter Skirrow, Esq., Q.C., and Wm. Thos. Jemmett, Esq. Leeds.—Martin John West, Esq., and William Scrope Ayrton, Esq. Bristol.—Matthew Davenport Hill, Esq., Q.C. Exeter.—Montague Baker Bere, Esq. Newcastle.—N. Ellison, Esq.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

THE CALENDAR.

PRINCIPAL ARTICLES OF THE CALENDAR FOR THE YEAR OF OUR LORD 1858.

	Gregorian, or New Calendar.	Julian, or Old Calendar.
Golden Number	16	16
Epact	XV	XXVI
Solar Cycle	19	19
Roman Indiction	1	1
Dominical Letter	C	E
Septuagesima	Jan. 31	Jan. 19.
Ash Wednesday	Feb. 17	Feb. 5.
Easter Sunday	April 4	Mar. 23.
Ascension Day	May 13	May 1
Pentecost—Whit Sunday	May 23	May 11
1st Sunday in Advent	Nov. 28	Nov. 30.

The year 1858 is the latter part of the 5618th and the beginning of the 5619th year since the creation of the world, according to the Jews. The year 5619 commences on Sept. 9, 1858.

The year 1858 answers to the 6571st year of the Julian Period, to the 2611th year from the foundation of Rome, to the 2634th year of the Olympiads, and to the 2605th year since the Era of Nabonassar. It answers to the year 7366-67 of the Byzantine Era.

The year 1275 of the Mohammedan Era commences on Aug. 11, 1858, and Ramadan (month of abstinence observed by the Turks) commences on April 15, 1858.

CALENDAR OF THE JEWS FOR THE YEAR 1858.

5618.	1857.	NEW MOONS AND FEASTS.
Tebeth 10	December 27 1858.	Fast: Siege of Jerusalem
Schebat 1	January 16	
Adar 1	February 15	
" 11	" 25	Fast: Esther
" 14	" 28	Purim
" 15	March 1	Schuschan Purim
Nisan 1	" 16	
" 15	" 30	Passover begins*
" 16	" 31	Second Feast*
" 21	April 5	Seventh Feast*
" 22	" 6	End of Passover*
Ijar 1	" 15	
" 18	May 2	Lag Bo'mer
Sivan 1	" 14	
" 6	" 19	Feast of Weeks*
" 7	" 20	Second Feast*
Thamuz 1	June 13	
" 17	" 29	Fast: Seizure of the Temple
Ab 1	July 12	
" 9	" 20	Fast: Destruction of the Temple*
Elul 1	August 11	
5619.		
Tischri 1	September 9	New Year's Feast*
" 2	" 10	Second Feast*
" 4	" 12	Fast: Death of Gedaliah
" 10	" 18	Fast: Day of Atonement*
" 15	" 23	Feast of the Tabernacles*
" 16	" 24	Second Feast*
" 21	" 29	Feast of Branches
" 22	" 30	End of Feast of Tabernacles*
" 23	October 1	Feast of the Law*
Marsch. 1	" 9	
Kislev 1	November 8	
" 25	December 2	Feast of the Dedication of the Temple
Tebeth 1	" 8	
" 10	" 17	Fast: Siege of Jerusalem
Schebat 1	January 6	

Those marked with an asterisk are strictly observed.

BEGINNING OF THE SEASONS, 1858.

	D.	H.	M.
Sun enters Capricornus and Winter begins	1857, Dec. 21	8	17 P.M.
" " Aries Spring begins	1858, Mar. 20	9	32 P.M.
" " Cancer Summer begins	" June 21	6	13 P.M.
" " Libra Autumn begins	" Sept. 23	8	25 A.M.
" " Capricornus Winter begins	" Dec. 22	2	12 A.M.

The Sun will consequently be in the	Winter signs	89	1	15
" " " " " " " "	Spring signs	92	20	41
" " " " " " " "	Summer signs	93	14	12
" " " " " " " "	Autumn signs	89	17	47

The Summer is therefore 4 days, 12 hours, and 57 minutes longer than the Winter; 3 days, 20 hours, and 25 minutes longer than that of Autumn; and 17 hours and 31 minutes longer than that of Spring.

	1858. D. H. M.
The Sun will be on the Equator and going North	March 20 9 32 P.M., his declin. being 0° 0' 0"
The Sun will reach his greatest North declination	June 21 6 13 P.M., his declin. being 23° 27' 36"
The Sun will be on the Equator and going South	Sept. 23 8 25 A.M., his declin. being 0° 0' 0"
The Sun will reach his greatest South declination	Dec. 22 2 12 A.M., his declin. being 23° 27' 35"

The Sun will be North of the Equator (comprising the periods of Spring and Summer) 186 days, 10 hours, 53 minutes.
The Sun will be South of the Equator (comprising the periods of Autumn and Winter) 178 days, 19 hours, 2 minutes.

MOHAMMEDAN CALENDAR FOR THE YEAR 1858.

Year.	Name of the Months.	Month begins.
1274.	Dschemadi el-awwel I.	December 18, 1857
"	Dschemadi el-accher I.	January 17, 1858
"	Redscheb I.	February 15, "
"	Schabân I.	March 17, "
"	Ramadân I.	April 15, "
"	Schewwâl I.	May 15, "
"	Dsû'l-kade I.	June 13, "
"	Dsû'l-hedsche I.	July 13, "
1275.	Moharrem I.	August 11, "
"	Safar I.	September 10, "
"	Bebî el-awwel I.	October 9, "
"	Rebi el-accher I.	November 8, "
"	Dschemadi el-awwel I.	December 7, "
"	Dschemadi el-accher I.	January 6, 1859

LAW TERMS.

As settled by Statutes 11 Geo. IV., and 1 Will. IV., cap. 70, s. 6 (passed July 23, 1830); 1 Will. IV., cap. 3, s. 2 (passed December 23, 1830).

Hilary Term	Begins January 11	Ends February 1
Easter Term	" April 15	" May 8
Trinity Term	" May 22	" June 12
Michaelmas Term	" November 2	" November 25

UNIVERSITY TERMS, 1858.

OXFORD.

TERM.	BEGINS.	ENDS.
Lent	January 14	March 27
Easter	April 14	May 22
Trinity	May 26	July 10
Michaelmas	October 11	December 17

The Act, July 6.

CAMBRIDGE.

TERM.	BEGINS.	DIVIDES.	ENDS.
Lent	Jan. 13	Feb. 18, Noon	Mar. 26
Easter	April 14	May 27, Noon	July 9
Michaelmas	Oct. 10	Nov. 12, Midnight	Dec. 16

The Commencement, July 6.

ASTRONOMICAL SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS.

☉ The Sun	19 Fortuna	46 —
☾ New Moon	20 Massilia	47 —
☾ First Quart. of Moon	21 Lutetia	48 — 49 —
☾ Full Moon	22 Calliope	♃ Jupiter
☾ Last Quart. of Moon	23 Thalia	♄ Saturn
☿ Mercury	24 Themis	♅ Uranus
♀ Venus	25 Phoebe	♆ Neptune
♁ or ♂ The Earth	26 Proserpine	♁ Ascending Node
♂ Mars	27 Euterpe	♂ Descending Node
♂ Ceres	28 Bellona	N North
♂ Pallas	29 Amphitrite	E East
♂ Juno	30 Urania	S South
♂ Vesta	31 Euphrosyne	W West
♂ Astrea	32 Pomona	° Degrees
♂ Hebe	33 Polyhymnia	' Minutes of Arc
♂ Iris	34 Circe	" Seconds of Arc
♂ Flora	35 Leucothea	D Days
♂ Metis	36 Fides	H Hours
10 Hygeia	37 Atalanta	M Minutes of Time
11 Parthenope	38 Leda	S Seconds
12 Victoria	39 Lætitia	☉ Sunday
13 Egeria	40 Harmonia	☾ Monday
14 Irene	41 Daphne	♂ Tuesday
15 Eunomia	42 Isis	♂ Wednesday
16 Psyche	43 Ariadne	♂ Thursday
17 Thetis	44 —	♂ Friday
18 Melpomene	45 —	♂ Saturday

The Symbol ☿ Conjunction, or having the same Longitude or Right Ascen.
☐ Quadrature, or differing 90° in Longitude or Right Ascen.
♁ Opposition, or differing 180° in Longitude or Right Ascen.

(For explanation of Astronomical terms, see Almanack for the year 1848.)

FIXED AND MOVEABLE FESTIVALS, ANNIVERSARIES, &c.

Epiphany	Jan. 6	Pentecost—Whit Sunday	May 23
Martyrdom of K. Charles I.	" 30	Birth of Queen Victoria	" 24
Septuagesima Sunday	" 31	Restoration of K. Chas. II.	" 29
Quinquagesima—Shrove S. Feb. 14	" 14	Trinity Sunday	" 30
Ash Wednesday	" 17	Corpus Christi	June 3
Quadragesima—1st Sun.	" 21	Accession of Queen Vict.	" 20
1st Sun. in Lent	" 21	Proclamation	" 21
St. David	Mar. 1	St. John Baptist—Mid-	" 24
St. Patrick	" 17	summer Day	" 24
Annunciation—Lady Day	" 25	Birth of Prince Albert	Aug. 26
Palm Sunday	" 28	St. Michael—Michaelm. D.	Sep. 29
Good Friday	" 31	Gunpowder Plot	Nov. 5
EASTER SUNDAY	April 2	Birth of Prince of Wales	Nov. 9
Low Sunday	" 11	1st Sunday in Advent	" 23
St. George	" 23	St. Andrew	" 30
Rogation Sunday	May 9	St. Thomas	Dec. 21
Ascension Day—Holy Th.	" 13	CHRISTMAS DAY	" 25

JANUARY

1858



JANUARY THIRTY-ONE DAYS.

Day of Month.	Day of Week.	ANNIVERSARIES, FESTIVALS, REMARKABLE EVENTS.	SUN						MOON.						HIGH WATER AT				PLANETS.																
			RISES at Lon- don.			SETS at Lon- don.			RISES at London.			SETS AT London.			LONDON BRIDGE.		LIVERPOOL DOCK.		Day of M.	Rise.		South.		Set.											
			H.	M.	S.	H.	M.	S.	H.	M.	S.	H.	M.	S.	DAYS	H.	M.	H.		M.	H.	M.													
																							Morn.		Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.				
1	F	<i>Circumcision</i>	8	8	12	3	52	3	59	5	55	1	18	9	46	16	2	44	3	9	—	0	13	Mercury.	1	9	17	M	1	26	A	5	35	A	
2	S	Sun sets at Edinburgh at 3h 33m	8	8	12	4	20	4	0	7	25	2	14	10	10	17	3	35	3	58	0	36	1		0	6	8	53	1	13	5	32			
3	S	2 ^d S. a. CHRIST.	8	8	12	4	4	4	1	8	49	3	6	10	27	18	4	22	4	46	1	24	1		47	16	7	30	11	56	M	4	23		
4	M	Sun sets at Dublin 3h 52m	8	8	12	5	15	4	3	10	8	3	54	10	40	19	5	9	5	30	2	8	2		28	21	6	52	11	14	3	36			
5	Tu	Sun rises at Edinburgh 8h 33m	8	8	12	5	42	4	4	11	23	4	38	10	52	20	5	50	6	12	2	50	3		12	26	6	28	10	46	3	4			
6	W	<i>Epiph.</i> Twelfth D.	8	7	12	6	8	4	5	Morn.			5	20	11	2	21	6	34	6	55	3	33	3	54	1	7	9	11	3	2	57			
7	Th	Sun rises at Dublin 8h 18m	8	7	12	6	34	4	7	0	37	6	1	11	13	7	16	7	39	4	17	4	41	6	7	18	11	11	3	4					
8	F	<i>Luc'an.</i> F. Ins. d.	8	7	12	7	0	4	8	1	50	6	43	11	25	23	8	3	8	30	5	8	5	42	11	7	24	11	18	3	13				
9	S	Length of day at London 8h 3m	8	6	12	7	25	4	9	3	3	7	26	11	40	24	9	4	9	35	6	13	6	47	21	7	33	11	33	3	34				
10	S	1 st S. aft. EPIPH.	8	5	12	7	50	4	11	4	16	8	12	Aftern.	25	10	9	10	44	7	22	7	58	26	7	35	11	40	3	46					
11	M	Plough Monday	8	5	12	8	14	4	12	5	28	9	0	0	29	26	11	20	11	55	8	33	9	4	Mars.	1	1	38	6	57	0	17			
12	Tu	Twilight ends 6h 1 ^m	8	4	12	8	37	4	13	6	34	9	51	1	6	27	—	0	26	9	31	9	53	6		1	33	6	57	0	17				
13	W	Camb. Term beg.	8	3	12	9	0	4	15	7	30	10	43	1	58	28	0	53	1	15	10	15	10	38		11	1	29	6	38	11	47			
14	Th	Oxford Term beg.	8	3	12	9	22	4	16	8	12	11	36	3	3	29	1	37	2	0	10	58	11	16		16	1	23	6	28	11	34			
15	F	Sun rises at Dublin 8h 12m	8	2	12	9	44	4	18	8	44	Aftern.			4	18	2	20	2	38	11	35	11	52		21	1	19	6	18	11	18			
16	S	Sun rises at Edinburgh 8h 24m	8	1	12	10	5	4	20	9	7	1	16	5	36	1	2	57	3	14	—	0	9	26	1	13	6	8	11	4					
17	S	2 nd S. aft. EPIPH.	8	0	12	10	25	4	21	9	25	2	3	6	53	2	3	31	3	48	0	26	0	42	Jupiter.	1	0	24	A	7	32	A	2	43	
18	M	<i>Prisca.</i>	7	59	12	10	44	4	23	9	38	2	48	8	12	3	4	4	22	1	0	1	17	11		0	6	7	12	2	2				
19	Tu	Length of day at London 8h 27m	7	58	12	11	3	4	25	9	50	3	32	9	30	4	4	39	4	57	1	35	1	52		16	11	27	6	34	1	45			
20	W	<i>Fabian</i>	7	57	12	11	21	4	26	10	1	4	16	10	50	5	5	14	5	34	2	12	2	30		21	11	5	6	16	1	29			
21	Th	<i>Agnes</i>	7	56	12	11	38	4	28	10	13	5	2	Morn.			6	5	52	6	13	2	51	3		10	10	48	5	58	1	10			
22	F	<i>Vincent</i>	7	55	12	11	54	4	30	10	26	5	51	0	11	7	6	32	6	55	3	33	3	55	Saturn.	1	5	6	A	1	10	M	9	9	
23	S	Day breaks at Lon ⁿ on 5h 53m	7	54	12	12	10	4	31	10	44	6	44	1	37	8	7	17	7	42	4	20	4	49		6	4	45	0	49	8	49			
24	S	3 rd S. aft. EPIPH.	7	53	12	12	25	4	33	11	9	7	42	3	6	9	8	11	8	46	5	24	6	4		11	4	23	0	28	8	29			
25	M	<i>Conv. of St. Paul</i>	7	51	12	12	38	4	35	11	45	8	45	4	34	10	9	26	10	6	6	44	7	28		16	4	0	0	7	8	9			
26	Tu	Sun sets at Dublin 4h 28m	7	49	12	12	52	4	37	Aftern.			9	50	5	54	11	10	50	11	36	8	14	8		53	21	3	39	11	41	A	7	47	
27	W	Sun sets at Edinburgh 4h 20m	7	48	12	13	4	4	39	1	52	10	55	6	57	12	—	0	15	9	26	9	58	Uranus.	1	1	3	8	49	4	39				
28	Th	Sun rises at Dublin 7h 56m	7	47	12	13	15	4	40	3	20	11	56	7	40	13	0	48	1	20	10	29	10		55	6	0	43	8	29	4	18			
29	F	Sun rises at Edinburgh 8h 5m	7	46	12	13	26	4	42	4	50	Morn.			8	9	1	51	2	17	11	19	11		42	11	0	23	8	9	4	0			
30	S	Charles I. Martyr	7	45	12	13	36	4	44	6	18	0	51	8	30	15	2	41	3	4	—	0	4		16	0	2	7	49	3	38				
31	S	SEPTUAGESIMA	7	43	12	13	45	4	45	7	42	1	42	8	45	16	3	26	3	47	0	25	0		44	21	11	43	M	7	29	3	19		
																								26	11	23	7	9	2	58					



THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS, THE RIGHT HON. JOHN EVELYN DENISON, ELECTED APRIL 30, 1857.
FROM THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."



STATUE OF THE EARL OF CHATHAM, IN ST. STEPHEN'S HALL.



STATUE OF CHARLES JAMES FOX, IN ST. STEPHEN'S HALL.

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—This great officer must have been anciently, as at present, the organ or spokesman of the Commons, although in modern times he is more occupied in presiding over the deliberations of the House than in delivering speeches in their behalf. Amongst the duties of the Speaker are the following:—To read to the Sovereign petitions or addresses from the Commons, and to deliver, in the Royal presence, whether at the Palace or in the House of Lords, such speeches as are usually made on behalf of the Commons; to manage in the name of the House, where counsel, witnesses, or prisoners, are at the bar; to reprimand persons who have incurred the displeasure of the House; to issue warrants of committal or release for breaches of privilege; to communicate in writing with any parties, when so instructed by the House; to exercise vigilance in reference to private bills, especially with a view to protect property in general, or the rights of individuals, from undue encroachment or injury; to express the thanks or approbation of the Commons to distinguished personages; to control and regulate the subordinate officers of the House; to entertain the members at dinner, in due succession, and at stated periods; to adjourn the House at four o'clock, if forty members be not present; to appoint tellers on divisions. The Speaker must abstain from debating, unless in Committees of the whole House. As Chairman of the House his duties are the same as those of any other President of a deliberative assembly. When Parliament is about to be prorogued, it is customary for the Speaker to address to the Sovereign, in the House of Lords, a speech, recapitulating the proceedings of the Session. He is chosen by the House of Commons from amongst its own members, subject to the approval of the Crown, and holds his office till the dissolution of the Parliament in which he was elected. His salary is £6000 a year, exclusive of a furnished

residence. At the end of his official labours he is generally rewarded by a peerage, and a pension of £4000 for two lives. He is a member of the Privy Council, and entitled to rank after Barons. Until the year 1853, business, generally speaking, could not be transacted in his absence, though to this rule there was an exception in the year 1606, a prisoner being released by order of the House during the illness of a Speaker. In August, 1853, however, it was resolved that, during the unavoidable absence of the Speaker, the Chairman of Committees of the whole House should preside in his stead. Should a member persevere in breaches of order, the Speaker may "name" him, as it is called—a course uniformly followed by the censure of the House. In extreme cases the Speaker may order members or others into custody until the pleasure of the House be signified. On divisions, when the numbers happen to be equal, he gives the casting vote, but he never otherwise votes.

THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF LORDS.—The Lord Chancellor is the Keeper of the Great Seal, and by virtue of that office he becomes, on the bare delivery of the seal to him by the Sovereign, Speaker of the House of Lords. He is usually, but not necessarily, a Peer. There has always been a Deputy Speaker, and formerly there were two or more; but since the year 1851 there has been only one. The Chairman in Committees generally fills this office. In the absence of the Lord Chancellor and of the Deputy Speaker, it is competent to the House to appoint any noble Lord to take the woolsack. The Speaker is the organ or mouthpiece of the House, and it therefore is his duty to represent their Lordships in their collective capacity when holding intercourse with other public bodies or with individuals. He has not a casting vote upon divisions, for, should the numbers prove equal, the not contents prevail. The Deputy Speaker of the Lords is appointed by the Crown.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

JANUARY.

THE SUN was at its shortest distance from the Earth at 8h. 9m. P.M. of Dec. 31. It is situated south of the Equator, and moving northward. It passes from the sign of Capricornus to that of Aquarius at 56 minutes past 6 on the evening of the 19th.

THE MOON is near Mars on the morning of the 8th, near Venus on the morning of the 14th, near Mercury on the morning of the 15th, near Jupiter on the morning of the 23rd, near Uranus on the morning of the 24th, and near Saturn on the morning of the 28th. It is most distant from the Earth on the evening of the 10th, and nearest to it on the evening of the 26th.

Last Quarter occurs at 47 minutes past midnight of the 6th.

New Moon	32	5 on the morning of the 15th.
First Quarter	57	4 on the afternoon of the 22nd.
Full Moon	11	9 on the morning of the 29th.

MERCURY is in the constellation of Capricornus at the beginning of the month and in that of Sagittarius at the end of the month. The planet is near the Moon on the morning of the 15th, and at the same time nearly at inferior conjunction with the Sun. At the commencement of January it sets after the Sun, and is favourably situated for observing with the unaided eye. Although but seldom seen under these circumstances, this must rather be ascribed to its unfavourable proximity to the Sun than to its proper faintness, as it is judged to be as bright as a star of the first magnitude.

VENUS is now moving rapidly to the east, and increasing in altitude. It is situated in the constellation of Ophiuchus at the beginning, and in that of Capricornus, at the end, of the month; southing at 11h. A.M. on the former time, and at 11h. 47m. A.M. at the latter. It is near the Moon on the morning of the 14th. This planet is unfavourably situated during the month for observation, and is invisible to the naked eye.

MARS will be visible in the mornings; and is situated in the constellation of Virgo at the beginning, and in that of Libra at the end, of the month. It is situated near the Moon on the morning of the 8th, being then about five degrees north of it.

JUPITER will be an evening star throughout the month; being visible for three hours after midnight at the beginning of the month, and until 52 minutes past midnight at the end. It remains in the constellation of Aries during January. It is near the Moon on the night of the 22nd. The relative size of the disc of Jupiter on Jan. 1, in comparison with its appearance in August and December, is given under the month of August.

The most favourably situated of all the planets during this month is SATURN, which souths at midnight about the middle of January, and continues in the constellation of Gemini throughout the month. On the morning of the 28th it is near the Moon.

At the middle of January, at 9h. P.M., the rich constellations of Taurus and Orion are on the S. meridian, and below and to the E. of the latter are those of Lepus and Canis Major, the latter possessing the brightest star in the heavens (Sirius). In the S.W. are the constellations of Cetus and Aries, to the W. Pisces and Pegasus, and in the N.W. the constellations of Cygnus, Cepheus, and Lyra. In the N.E., below Ursa Major, the group of Canes Venatici is situated, in the E., Leo, Cancer, and Hydra, and in the S.E. Canis Major and Canis Minor, Monoceros, and above those the well-known Gemini. In the zenith are the constellations of Perseus, Auriga, and Camelopardalus.

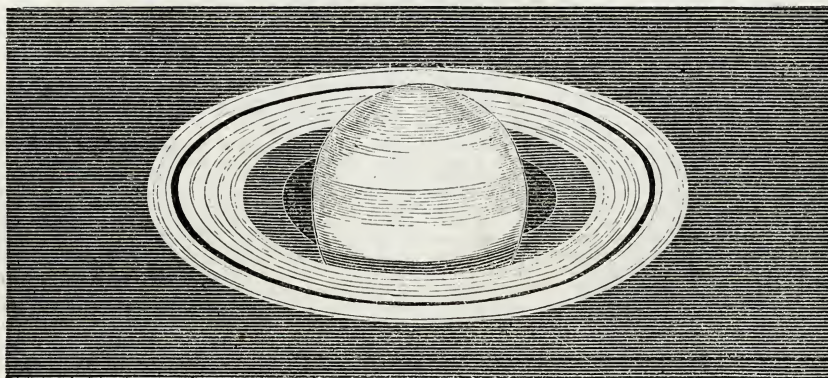
The planet SATURN is a most beautiful telescopic object, but the ring is not so well seen as it has been during the last few years, although the divisions will still be very plainly visible on its surface, and the belts of the planet be at all times distinct. The representation of it here given is from a drawing made under favourable circumstances at Rome (with one of Merz's great refractors) by Professor Secchi. From this it will be seen that, in addition to the great division on the ring, two others on the exterior part are plainly visible; whilst the inner ring presents the appearance of a series of steps descending to the inner edge—a fact which had already been noticed by Mr. Dawes in England. From the irregular shape of the shadow of the ball on the ring, Professor Secchi came to the conclusion on this occasion that the rings were not situated in the same plane; and the different distances of the edge of the ring from the centre of the planet led him to suppose that the period of rotation of the ring of the planet, which has already been determined by the elder Herschel from a spot on its surface, might be concluded from a series of measurements of this kind. The inner dusky ring was so bright as to be visible in the strongest twilight, and was seen both on the ball of the planet and within the ring when the sun had scarcely set: it sometimes appeared of a bluish tint on one side of the ball, and of a reddish tint on the other. The broadest band on the ball of the planet was likewise of a reddish tint. The form and dimensions of the ring and ball on Jan. 30, and on the reappearance of the planet in autumn, are here given.

The star Omicron Ceti (vide November) may now be perceived in the western sky, having attained

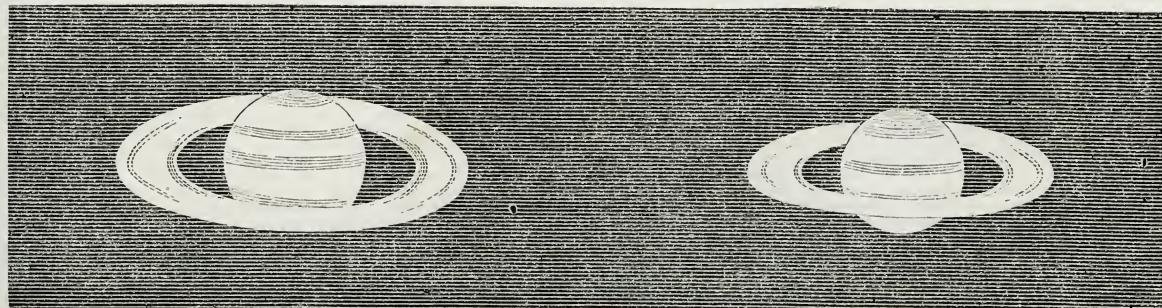
its greatest brightness at the beginning of December, 1857. It is now waning in lustre, but should remain visible to the naked eye during the whole of this month. The remarkable periodical changes in the lustre of Beta Persei or Algol (vide October) may likewise be observed with advantage during this month.

There are now several telescopic objects visible in the heavens, which can be observed to great advantage, particularly those in the constellation of Orion, which is now on the meridian at 9 P.M. The most southerly star in the belt of Orion is a double one, and a test object for the goodness of a telescope, the components being very close. The brighter star is of a whitish-yellow colour, the lesser blue. In the year 1782 this star (designated Zeta) appeared single, the smaller one being probably occulted by the larger. Below Zeta a star of the fourth magnitude (designated as Sigma) is situated, the neighbourhood of which is very rich in stars. Schroeter detected twelve stars immediately surrounding it; but Struve was able to perceive sixteen stars. Near to Omicron Orionis there is a triple star: the colour of the principal component is a bright yellow; that of the others being of a bluish tint. The splendid nebula of Orion surrounds the quadruple star Theta Orionis, the components of which are nearly of the same magnitude, and situated in a dark space in the densest portion of the nebula. An instrument of moderate power is sufficient to separate the components of Theta Orionis; but the more powerful telescopes show numerous small stars surrounding them, which, nevertheless, appear to be quite distinct from the nebula. The principal star in this constellation (Alpha Orionis) is variable, having a period of 196 days; but the change in lustre is very slight. The star Beta Orionis or Rigel is a fine double star; but the lesser component is faint. Between the stars Pi and Phi Andromedæ, and below the right arm of the figure, a keen eye may perceive a faint cometary object on a dark and clear night, which is the celebrated nebula of Andromeda, one of the few visible to the naked eye, and irresolvable in the largest telescopes.

SATURN NOVEMBER 27, 1855.



RELATIVE DIMENSIONS OF SATURN, 1858.



January 30, 1858.

October 15, 1858.

TIME OF SOUTHING OF THE PRINCIPAL STARS WHICH PASS THE MERIDIAN BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 15TH OF JANUARY.

	7h.	15m.	P.M.		10h.	7m.	P.M.
Alpha Ceti	..	7	34	Alpha Orionis	..	10	59
Alpha Persei	..	8	48	Sirius	..	11	46
Aldebaran	..	9	26	Castor	..	11	52
Capella	..	9	27	Procyon	..	11	57
Rigel	..	9	27	Pollux	..	11	57

The Præsepe in Cancer is another of the clusters now visible to the naked eye, and appears a fine rich object in a telescope of moderate size. The portion of the heavens contained between Beta and Zeta Tauri is very rich in stars, and there are several telescopic clusters in the neighbourhood. The cluster in Perseus (vide October) is also visible at present, it is of an elliptic form, with a double star situated in the centre.

POPULAR FLOWERS OF THE SEASONS.
JANUARY AND FEBRUARY.

At the earliest period of the year, when the holly branch and the mistletoe bough are lingering within doors, there is little of activity—little to attract the eye—amongst out-door vegetation. The masses of the Christmas Rose will, indeed, be continuing to blossom—their flowers, at first snowy white, undergoing, at this season, curious changes of colour; and the garden may be further enlivened with so-called “evergreens” of variegated dress; but it is not until the first month of the year is somewhat advanced, and then only under favourable conditions of weather, that the true floral harbingers of spring may with certainty be looked for. Then the Winter Aconite (*Eranthis hiemalis*), the Snowdrop (*Galanthus nivalis*), and the Early Crocus (*Crocus*, several kinds) appear, sometimes even rearing their delicate heads from beneath a mantle of snow, ready to greet, as with a burst of joy, the early sunshine of the opening year.

One of the first of these to produce its blossoms is the Winter Aconite, a dwarf plant, extremely useful in gardens, on account of its bright yellow colour, as a companion for the snowdrop and other early small bulbs. This plant has permanent fleshy underground stems (which are what is called tuberos), and requires to be treated in a manner exactly similar to the smaller bulbs. The name of winter aconite seems to have been given to it in allusion to its season of flowering and its aconite-like cut leaves. The underground stem grows slowly in a horizontal direction, and produces, at short intervals, on its upper side, buds, whence the leaves and flowers arise, the whole being not more than from two to four inches high. Those which bear the flowers consist of a slender succulent stalk, supporting near its summit, close below the flower, a pair of stalkless leaves, which, being cut down into narrow segments, furnish as it were a green frill beneath the solitary flower. A few leaves grow up in addition, on stalks nearly as long as the flowering stems; these are parted into from five to seven divisions or segments, the segments being long and narrow. The flowers, which stand upright without stalks at the top of the short stalks, consist of the following parts:—An outer whorl or circle, varying in the number of parts from five to eight, forming the calyx, here of a bright pale yellow colour, and the conspicuous part of the flower; within this is an inner whorl or circle—the corolla—consisting of from six to eight very short tubular bodies, quite inconspicuous, and not seen without close examination; next, within these comes a crowd of stamens; and, in the centre of all, a group of five or six separate ovaries, which become the seed-vessels. An examination of the flowers may serve to convey a first lesson in that branch of botany which bears on the classification of plants, the peculiarities here to be observed being accordant with the structure of the great natural group of Ranunculaceæ, or the Crowfoot family, a race of plants generally acrid, and familiarly represented in the buttercups of our meadows, the traveller's-joy of our wayside fences, and the anemones, larkspurs, and pæonies of our gardens. The winter aconite is a native of the countries of the middle and south of Europe, and is sometimes found naturalised in thickets in England, though, probably, in all cases a remnant of previous cultivation. It is, however, a garden flower well known to the initiated, and especially to be recommended for its early blooming property, as it commences to flower in January, and sometimes, according to season or situation, continues into March. Once planted, it needs no other care but that of guarding against the tubers being dug up and destroyed during the season when the plants are dormant. They may, too, be planted in pots like crocuses, and bloomed on the window-ledge. It should, however, be borne in mind that the plant is poisonous.

The Snowdrop, perhaps, yields to no flower in graceful delicacy; and is well known as one among the first to awaken from the repose of winter. Though reputedly a native of England, there seems reason to doubt whether it is truly indigenous, and to conclude that those places in which it now appears as if wild are the sites of ancient gardens. It is known to be a native of the more southern parts of Europe, and was doubtless introduced at a very early date. The structure of this plant is quite unlike that of the winter aconite, and may be viewed in contrast with it. In the snowdrop the underground portion, a fleshy stem (erroneously called the root), forms a true bulb—a bulb being a hybernaculum, or dormitory, in which, after one season's growth, the whole vital energy of the plant becomes stored for the succeeding year. This bulb consists of thin fleshy layers, one within the other, from the circumference to the central bud, whence the stem in due time appears, the layers being arranged upon a cone-shaped fleshy base, from the edges of which spring the true roots. The above-ground portion consists of a few long grassy leaves, blunt-ended, and of what is called a glaucous or sea-green colour, and a flower-stem or scape scarcely taller than the leaves, terminated by a solitary pendent flower. The perianth, which is the technical name given to the more conspicuous coloured parts of the flower in this case, consists of six pieces, of which the three outer ones are between egg-shaped and lance-shaped, concave, spreading, pure white, and veiny; while the three inner pieces are not more than half as long as the outer, very blunt, and notched at the end, each having a green blotch on its outer side, not spreading, but almost or quite joining at the edges, so as to form a kind of inner cup. Within there are six short stamens, and a longer cylindrical style terminating the ovary, which occupies the centre, and is formed of three cells, inclosing many embryo seeds; the ovary when mature becomes the capsule, or seed-vessel. It belongs to the Amaryllis family. In the great natural division of plants to which the snowdrop belongs (the monocotyledons, or one-seed-leaf bearers), development almost always takes place by threes; while in the other great division (the dicotyledons, or two-seed-leaf bearers) the development is usually by fours (tetramerous) or fives (pentamerous), the latter being most prevalent. Thus, it will have been observed, the outer whorls of the flower (answering to calyx and corolla) consist of three outer parts (sepals) and three inner parts (petals); within these are six stamens—two series of three; and the ovary is three-celled. This simple circumstance often furnishes a ready index to classification so far as the division into the large primary groups is concerned. There is a curious property belonging to the snowdrop, in common with other bulbous plants, which deserves mention—it is both oviparous and viviparous; that is to say, it produces seeds from which young plants may be obtained, and it also produces from the outside of the bulbs what are called offsets, which are in fact little bulbs, and from these, too, young plants may be obtained, the latter being, in fact, the most simple process, and the young plants so obtained sooner reaching maturity. The snowdrop in warm seasons sometimes comes into blossom by the middle of January, but it is more commonly the beginning of February ere they are seen in flower. It seems to have been from this

circumstance of flowering about Candlemas-day that they obtained the monkish name of “Our Lady of February,” which afterwards became changed into “Fair Maid of February.” The kind with double blossoms is most usually preferred for cultivation, but there is much graceful beauty about the common kind. Snowdrops are very easily cultivated. Like all bulbous plants they require a season of repose alternating with that of growth and flowering; and this their natural habit and the conditions of our climate sufficiently secure to them, the dry hot weather of summer serving to ripen, as it is called, the dormant bulbs, the leaves naturally dying away in summer. If taken out of the ground, they should not be longer than six or eight weeks exposed to the air; and they are much better left undisturbed in the ground. August is the time for planting them; the bulb should be placed about two inches beneath the surface, and set one or two inches apart. They may be had in pots for flowering in-doors, or in the window. In the open ground they produce little effect when first planted, unless the roots are massed; but after a few years, when they have had time to form thick tufts, they are very ornamental, either along the edges of flower borders, or grouped beneath bushes or trees, or on grassy slopes, or in shrubberies, or by shrubby walks. Patches a foot in diameter occurring here and there are far more effective than single plants more continuously disposed.

Sliv'ry bud, thy pensile foliage,
Seems the angry blast to fear;
Yet secure thy tender texture
Ornaments the rising year.

Drooping harbinger of Flora.
Simply are thy blossoms dress'd;
Artless, as the gentle virtues
Mansioned in the blameless breast.

More gay than either of the foregoing is the Crocus, with its blossoms of many hues; indeed, this flower is the greatest enlivener of the garden from February onwards, and, when it is planted in sufficient quantities to give effect, its gaiety is scarcely to be surpassed; but, as an old writer has well remarked, “it is generally planted too sparingly or placed in rows on each side of the walk, reminding us of street lamps by night.” As there are many distinct kinds, of different and brilliant colours, they should be planted in rather large patches, each colour by itself, and then under the influence of sunshine, which causes the flower to expand, they have a very brilliant effect. There are yellows of various shades, deep purples, whites, and various striped and parti-coloured varieties sufficient to impart comparatively great variety as well as brilliancy to the garden. They should be planted in August, and the less they are disturbed the better. They also bloom extremely well in pots, so that they may be had in-doors with the ordinary trouble bestowed on plants for this purpose. The crocus is generally called a bulbous plant, but this is not quite a correct designation; its so-called root, really a dormant stem in which its energies are stored up in the inactive season of its existence, is not, like the bulb of the snowdrop, composed of layers of succulent matter, but consists of a solid, homogeneous, fleshy mass, containing the bud or growing point, and this mass becomes wasted by the growth of the leaves and flowers, and a new one formed annually above the old; technically this mass is called a corm, not a bulb. The plant consists of a tuft of grass-like leaves, which shoot up just after the flower appears, the latter rising two or three inches out of the ground on a long slender tube, which is not a stalk but a part of the flower itself. The flower consists of a perianth of six nearly uniform, oblong, concave divisions, which are highly coloured; within them are three stamens, and a pencil-like fringe, usually orange-coloured, which is the stigma, or termination of the style, the base of which, attached to the young seed-vessel, must be sought underground at the end of the stalk-like flower tube. Afterwards, however, the seed-vessel becomes elevated above the surface, to facilitate the ripening and dispersion of the seeds. The stigma just mentioned is a kind of saffron—the saffron of commerce being produced from that part of a particular species of crocus cultivated for the purpose. Though naturalised in a few places in England, the crocus does not appear to be truly indigenous: its native country being the more northern and eastern parts of Europe. It belongs to the Iris family.

The Primrose (*Primula vulgaris*) is too well known to need a very lengthened description, few, indeed, being unacquainted with the delicately-perfumed and modestly-coloured early wilding, which is considered the emblem of youth. The soft tints of its blossoms, like the mild beams of the moon, seem to invite us to quiet contemplation, and the sight of its flowers, recall, in later years, the early friends and rural walks of childhood and youth. The plant is one of those which are called perennial herbs—herbs, that is dwarf plants without woody stems, and perennials from their quality of enduring year after year without renewal from the seed. There is at the base a short, thickish, fleshy stem, which produces strong, coarse roots, striking deeply into the tenacious soil, in which the primrose delights. Then comes a tuft of bold, wrinkled leaves, oblong, and tapered towards the stalk, among which rise in profusion the delicate flowers, each on a separate slender stalk or scape. The flowers consist of calyx and corolla; the former is a five-angled tube, with five pointed teeth at the upper end; the latter is salver-shaped—that is, it has a longish, slender, cylindrical tube, which is placed within the calyx-tube, and above this a flat, expanded limb of five inversely heart-shaped divisions, forming the familiar pale yellow flower. Near the base of the corolla-tube are five stamens, and the style rising up the tube from the ovary at its base is terminated by a little globular head like that of a pin. This belongs to the Primrose family, and has given origin to many beautiful varieties cultivated in gardens; some of which have large double blossoms, and others clusters of flowers elevated on a common stalk.

The Mezeron (*Daphne Mezereum*) is a small shrub, deciduous—that is, casting off its leaves in winter, and producing its blossoms on the naked branches before young leaves are produced in spring. It belongs to the family of Spurge Laurels, and is a plant of acrid qualities, the bark being used medicinally. The mezeron, which is a native plant, found rarely in woods, forms a small branched shrub of from three to five feet high; its stoutest branches bearing thin lanceolate leaves, which appear after the flowers, and fall away in autumn. The flowers grow in small clusters, so close together as to loosely envelop the branches with blossoms—the clusters springing from the buds formed in the axils of the leaves of the previous year. The flowers, which are very sweet-scented, consist of a single envelope only, here called the perianth, which is tubular below, and divided above into a limb of four acute, ovate, spreading segments, the colour being a pale red or white, the former succeeded by red, the latter by yellowish, berries. There are eight stamens fixed to the tube, four near the orifice, and four lower down. The berry is single-seeded. This is one of the plants of the great dicotyledonous group, which shows a tetramerous, or four-part, structure; the pentamerous, or five-part, being illustrated by the primrose. The mezeron is an early flowerer, blooming in February, and continuing into March.



JANUARY AND FEBRUARY

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS:

CITIES, BOROUGHS, UNIVERSITIES, AND CINQUE PORTS, RETURNING MEMBERS TO
PARLIAMENT, AND THE NAMES OF THE MEMBERS;

ABBREVIATIONS.—Pop. for population; reg. elect. for registered electors.

Greenwich—Lieut.-Gen. Sir W. Codrington, John Townsend. Pop. 105,781, reg. elect. 6308.

Grimshy, Great—Lord Worsley. Pop. 12,263, reg. elect. 861.

Grimsby—John Donnelly Manglos, William Bovill. Pop. 6740, reg. elect. 648.

Haddington—Sir H. Ferguson-Davie, Bart. Pop. 12,501, reg. elect. 612.

Haddingtonshire—Lord Elcho. Pop. 36,386, reg. elect. 716.

Halifax—Frank Crossley, Right Hon. Sir Charles Wood, Bart. Pop. 33,582, reg. elect. 1200.

Hampshire, North—Wm. Wither Bramston Beach, George Selator. Pop. 135,953, reg. elect. 3596.

Hampshire, South—Sir Jervoise Clarke-Jervoise, Bart., Hon. Ralph Henegge Dutton. Pop. 219,881, reg. elect. 5694.

Hastings—John Bagshaw, George Warburton. Pop. 4151, reg. elect. 272.

Hastings—Patrick Francis Robertson, Frederick North. Pop. 17,011, reg. elect. 1050.

Hereford—John Henry Phillips. Pop. 9729, reg. elect. 632.

Helstone—Charles Trueman. Pop. 7238, reg. elect. 317.

Hereford—George Olive Henry Morgan Clifford. Pop. 62,108, reg. elect. 1013.

Herefordshire—Sir Henry Geers Cottesell, Bart., Thos. W. Booker Blakemore, James King King. Pop. 115,489, reg. elect. 6972.

Hertford—Right Hon. William F. Cowper, Minto Farquhar. Pop. 6595, reg. elect. 685.

Hertfordshire—Sir Henry Meux, Bart., Sir Edward Bulwer-Lytton, Bart., Christopher Wm. Fuller. Pop. 167,238, reg. elect. 5268.

Hinton—Joseph Locke, Archibald F. Stuart-Smith. Pop. 3127, reg. elect. 273.

Horsham—Wm. K. Seymour Fitz-Gerald. Pop. 5917, reg. elect. 350.

Huddersfield—Edward Akroyd. Pop. 30,830, reg. elect. 1013.

Hull—Kingston-upon-Arms, James Clay, Lord Ashley. Pop. 84,690, reg. elect. 5221.

Huntingdon—General Jonathan Peel, Thos. Baring. Pop. 6213, reg. elect. 339.

Huntingdonshire—James East, Edward Fellows. Pop. 64,183, reg. elect. 2452.

Hythe—Sir John W. Ramsden, Bart. Pop. 13,164, reg. elect. 856.

Inverness—Alexander Matheson. Pop. 20,386, reg. elect. 825.

Inverness-shire—Henry James Baillie. Pop. 96,500, reg. elect. 908.

Ipswich—John Chevallier Cobbold, Hugh Edward Adair. Pop. 32,914, reg. elect. 1838.

Kendal—George Carr Glyn. Pop. 11,829, reg. elect. 382.

Kent, East—Sir Brook Wm. Bridges, Bart., Sir Edward C. Dering, Bart. Pop. 218,182, reg. elect. 7119.

Kent, West—C. Wykeham Martin, James Whatman. Pop. 397,584, reg. elect. 9379.

Kerry—Henry Arthur Herbert, Viscount Casseresse. Pop. 238,211, reg. elect. 4980.

Kilmacintosh—Right Hon. Robert Lowe. Pop. 18,462, reg. elect. 495.

Kildare—Wm. Henry Ford Cogan, David O'Connor Henchy. Pop. 96,627, reg. elect. 295.

Kilkenny, County—Hon. Leopold G. F. Agar-Ellis, John Greco. Pop. 139,934, reg. elect. 5113.

Kilkenny—Michael Sullivan. Pop. 20,283, reg. elect. 676.

Kilmacintosh—Right Hon. Edward Playdell Bouverie. Pop. 43,365, reg. elect. 1380.

Kincardineshire—Hon. Lieut.-General Hugh Arbuthnot. Pop. 34,598, reg. elect. 951.

King's County—John Wm. Loftus. Pop. 112,875, reg. elect. 2764.

Kinsale—John Isaac Heaf. Pop. 5711, reg. elect. 156.

Kirkcaldy—Colonel Robert Ferguson. Pop. 22,508, reg. elect. 789.

Kirkcaldyshire—James Mackie. Pop. 43,121, reg. elect. 1325.

Knarborough—Basil Thos. Woodd, Thomas Collins. Pop. 5536, reg. elect. 200.

Lambeth—William Roupell, William Williams. Pop. 251,315, reg. elect. 18,131.

Lanarkshire—Sir Thomas Edw. Colebrooke. Pop. 530,169, reg. elect. 3471.

Lancashire, North—Wm. Wm. Patten Lord. Pop. 460,530, reg. elect. 12,297.

Lancashire, South—William Brown, John Cheetham. Pop. 1,570,706, reg. elect. 22,282.

Lancaster—Samuel Gregson, William James Garnett. Pop. 16,788, reg. elect. 383.

Lancaster—Hon. Joceline William Percy. Pop. 6005, reg. elect. 361.

Leeds—Right Hon. M. Talbot Baines. Pop. 172,270, reg. elect. 6406.

Leicester—John Wm. Huxis, John Biggs. Pop. 8341, reg. elect. 3833.

Leicestershire, North—Lord John Manners, Edward Basil Farnham. Pop. 91,308, reg. elect. 4097.

Leicestershire, South—Charles William Fracy, Viscount Curzon. Pop. 139,000, reg. elect. 5131.

(Continued on page 14.)

(Continued on page 14.)

FEBRUARY

1858



FEBRUARY TWENTY-EIGHT DAYS.

Day of Month.	Day of Week.	ANNIVERSARIES, FEST. VALS, REMARKABLE EVENTS.	SUN.						MOON.						HIGH WATER AT						PLANETS.													
			Rises			SETS			SOUTH.	Rises			SETS			LONDON BRIDGE.			LIVERPOOL DOCK.			Day of Mo.	Rise.	South.	Set.									
			Lon- don.	SOUTH.	Lon- don.	at London.	Aftern.	Lon- don.		Morn.	H. M.	H. M.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.																
1	M	Hilary Term ends	7	42	12	13	53	4	47	9	1	2	28	8	57	17	4	6	4	26	1	4	1	21	Mercury.	1	6	20	10	31	2	42	A	
2	Tu	Purifica. Candl.d.	7	40	12	14	0	44	9	10	18	3	12	9	7	18	4	43	5	2	1	40	1	59			6	6	18	10	28	2	38	B
3	W	Blaise	7	39	12	14	7	4	51	11	32	3	55	9	19	19	5	21	5	37	2	15	2	33			11	6	21	10	31	2	41	C
4	Th	Twilight ends 6h 49m	7	36	12	14	13	4	53	Morn.	4	37	9	30	20	5	55	6	12	2	50	3	8	8			21	6	24	10	37	2	51	D
5	F	Agatha	7	35	12	14	18	4	55	0	48	5	20	9	44	6	30	6	46	3	24	3	44	26	6	25	10	46	3	7	7	E		
6	S	Day breaks 5h 37m	7	33	12	14	22	4	56	2	1	6	6	10	22	7	6	7	26	4	4	4	25	1	7	32	11	48	4	5	8	F		
7	S	SEXAGESIMA S.	7	31	12	14	25	4	58	3	14	6	53	10	27	23	7	50	8	20	4	58	5	36	6	7	29	11	54	4	18	G		
8	M	Sun rises at Dub in 7h 37m	7	30	12	14	28	5	0	4	22	7	43	11	1	24	8	58	9	38	6	16	7	0	11	7	21	0	0	4	40	A		
9	Tu	Su sets at Dublin 5h 55m	7	28	12	14	30	5	2	5	22	8	35	11	48	25	10	22	11	6	7	44	8	27	16	7	18	0	5	4	53	B		
10	W	Q. Vict. m., 1840	7	26	12	14	31	5	4	6	11	9	28	Aftern.	26	11	49	—	9	8	9	34	26	7	7	7	5	0	13	5	22	7	C	
11	Th	Sun rises at Edinburgh 7h 37m	7	24	12	14	31	5	6	6	46	10	19	2	0	27	0	30	0	56	9	57	10	20	1	1	5	5	56	M	10	47	M	
12	F	Sun sets at Edinburgh 4h 54m	7	22	12	14	31	5	7	7	12	11	10	3	17	28	1	19	1	42	10	41	10	58	6	0	58	5	46	10	33	8	D	
13	S	Length of Day at London 9h 49m	7	20	12	14	29	5	9	7	31	11	58	4	37	●	2	3	2	20	11	16	11	34	11	0	44	5	24	10	5	9	E	
14	S	QUIN. SHI OVE S.	7	19	12	14	27	5	11	7	46	Aftern.	5	58	1	2	38	2	56	11	51	—	—	—	26	0	35	5	12	9	40	10	F	
15	M	[St. Valentine	7	17	12	14	25	5	13	7	58	1	29	7	17	2	3	13	3	30	0	8	0	23	1	10	24	5	36	A	0	51	G	
16	Tu	SHROVE TUESD.	7	15	12	14	21	5	15	8	10	2	14	8	37	3	3	45	4	1	0	39	0	56	6	0	58	5	19	0	35	1	H	
17	W	ASH WEDNESD.	7	13	12	14	17	5	17	8	21	3	0	10	0	4	4	18	4	36	1	14	1	31	11	9	48	5	2	0	19	2	I	
18	Th	Cam. Term div.	7	11	12	14	12	5	19	8	34	3	48	11	26	5	4	53	5	9	1	47	2	4	16	9	30	4	44	11	59	A	J	
19	F	Length of day at Dublin 10h 1m	7	9	12	14	7	5	20	8	50	4	40	Morn.	6	5	26	5	45	2	23	2	42	26	8	53	4	11	11	29	11	20	K	
20	S	Length of day at Edinburgh 9h 53m	7	7	12	14	0	5	22	9	12	5	36	0	52	7	6	4	6	24	3	2	3	26	1	2	50	A	10	54	7	1	M	
21	S	QUAD. 1st in L.	7	5	12	13	53	5	24	9	44	6	36	2	20	D	6	48	7	14	3	52	4	20	6	2	28	10	33	6	40	2	N	
22	M	Day breaks 5h 13m	7	3	12	13	46	5	26	10	29	7	39	3	42	9	7	42	8	17	4	55	5	40	11	2	7	10	12	6	20	3	O	
23	Tu	Twilight ends 7h 2 m	7	1	12	13	37	5	27	11	34	8	42	4	49	10	9	2	9	51	6	29	7	20	21	1	45	9	51	6	0	4	P	
24	W	Length of day at London 10h 30m	6	59	12	13	28	5	29	Aftern.	9	43	5	37	11	10	42	11	35	8	13	8	57	26	1	25	9	30	9	9	5	19	5	Q
25	Th	St. Matthias	6	57	12	13	19	5	31	2	22	10	39	6	11	12	—	0	19	9	29	9	56	1	10	59	M	6	45	2	36	6	R	
26	F	Sun rises at Dublin 6h 59m	6	54	12	13	9	5	33	3	50	11	31	6	33	13	0	51	1	18	10	24	10	45	6	10	40	6	26	2	15	7	S	
27	S	Sun sets at Dublin 5 31m	6	52	12	12	58	5	35	5	14	Morn.	6	50	○	1	46	2	7	11	7	11	27	16	10	1	41	5	47	1	36	8	T	
28	S	2ND S. in J ENT	6	50	12	12	47	5	36	6	35	0	18	7	3	15	2	29	2	49	11	46	12	1	21	9	41	5	27	1	18	9	U	
																								26	9	21	5	8	0	58	0	58	0	V

INDIA AND CHINA.—The only authentic Pictures and Sketches appear in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS.



JUGGERNAUT: THE ENTRANCE TO THE TEMPLE.—FROM THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

THE HOUSE OF COMMONS.—(Continued from page 11.)

- Leith**—James Moncreiff. Pop. 41,503, reg. elect. 2027.
- Leitrim**—Hugh Lyons Montgomery, John Brady. Pop. 111,808, reg. elect. 2753.
- Leominster**—Gathorne Hardy, John P. W. Loughby. Pop. 5214, reg. elect. 531.
- Leves**—Right Hon. Henry Fitzroy, Hon. Henry Brand. Pop. 9583, reg. elect. 713.
- Lichfield**—Viscount Sandon, Lord Alfred Henry Paget. Pop. 7012, reg. elect. 536.
- Limerick**—County—Right Hon. William Monahan Stephen Edward De Vere. Pop. 201,619, reg. elect. 6249.
- Limerick**—Francis William Russell, James O'Brien. Pop. 52,268, reg. elect. 1920.
- Lincoln**—Gervase T. Waldo Sibthorp, George Fieschi Henegge. Pop. 17,536, reg. elect. 1363.
- Lincolnshire, North**—James Banks Stanhope, Sir Montagu J. Cholmeley, Bart. Pop. 231,873, reg. elect. 11,677.
- Lincolnshire, South**—Sir John Trollope, Bart., Anthony Willson. Pop. 185,349, reg. elect. 8554.
- Linlithgowshire**—George Dundas. Pop. 99,139, reg. elect. 502.
- Litburn**—Jonathan Richardson. Pop. 7524, reg. elect. 217.
- Liskeard**—Ralph William Grey. Pop. 6204, reg. elect. 313.
- Liverpool**—Thomas Berry Horsfall, Joseph Christopher Ewart. Pop. 373,355, reg. elect. 17,433.
- London**—Sir James Duke, Bart., Baron Lionel de Rothschild, Lord John Russell, Robert Wigram Crawford. Pop. 127,930, reg. elect. 29,728.
- Londonderry, County**—James Johnstone Clarke, Samuel McCurdy Greer. Pop. 191,741, reg. elect. 4670.
- Londonderry**—Sir Robert Ferguson, Bart. Pop. 151,938, reg. elect. 823.
- Longford**—Colonel Henry White, Colonel Fulke Southwell Greenville. Pop. 83,198, reg. elect. 2148.
- Louth**—Clivesher Sam. Fortescue, John McClinck. Pop. 91,045, reg. elect. 2117.
- Ludlow**—Hon. Col. P. E. Herbert, Beriah Bottfield. Pop. 5376, reg. elect. 450.
- Lynn Regis**—William Minney. Pop. 3516, reg. elect. 309.
- Lymington**—William A. Maskinnon, jun., Sir John Rivett Carnac, Bart. Pop. 5282, reg. elect. 338.
- Lynn Regis**—Viscount Stanley, John Henry Grey. Pop. 19,355, reg. elect. 1176.
- Macclesfield**—John Brocklehurst, jun., Edward C. Egerton. Pop. 39,048, reg. elect. 1058.
- Maidstone**—A. J. B. Beresford-Hope Capt. Edward Scott. Pop. 29,801, reg. elect. 1731.
- Maldon**—Thos. Sutton Western, John Bramley-Moore. Pop. 5888, reg. elect. 815.
- Mallow**—Sir C. D. O. Jephson-Norrey, Bart. Pop. 6851, reg. elect. 213.
- Malmesbury**—Thomas Luce. Pop. 6938, reg. elect. 309.
- Malton**—Hon. Charles W. W. Fitz-William, James Brown. Pop. 7661, reg. elect. 539.
- Manchester**—Sir John Potter, James Aspinall Turner. Pop. 116,213, reg. elect. 18,483.
- Marlborough**—Lord Ernest Bruce, Henry Bingham Baring. Pop. 5135, reg. elect. 271.
- Marlow**—Great—Thomas Peers Williams, Lieut.-Col. Brownlow W. Knox. Pop. 6523, reg. elect. 351.
- Martineborough**—Sir Benjamin Hall, Bart., Viscount Ebrington. Pop. 370,557, reg. elect. 19,710.
- Mayo**—Wm. Henry Roger Palmer. Pop. 27,178, reg. elect. 1738.
- Meath**—Matthew Elias Corbally, Edward McKevoy. Pop. 139,706, reg. elect. 4307.
- Merionethshire**—Wm. Watkin Edward Wynne. Pop. 38,518, reg. elect. 1056.
- Merthyr-Tydfil**—John Austin Bruce. Pop. 63,080, reg. elect. 938.
- Middlesex**—Robert Hanbury jun., Hon. G. H. C. Byng. Pop. 1,886,576, reg. elect. 14,610.
- Midhurst**—Samuel Warren. Pop. 7021, reg. elect. 279.
- Monaghan**—Charles Powell Leslie, Sir George Forster. Bart. Pop. 143,410, reg. elect. 4921.
- Monmouth**—Crawshaw Bailey. Pop. 26,512, reg. elect. 1676.
- Monmouthshire**—Charles Octavius S. Morgan, Lieut.-Col. Edward Arthur Somerset. Pop. 157,418, reg. elect. 4973.
- Montgomery**—David Pugh. Pop. 17,887, reg. elect. 1003.
- Montgomeryshire**—Herbert W. Williams Wynne. Pop. 67,385, reg. elect. 2986.
- Montrose**—William Edward Baxter. Pop. 49,106, reg. elect. 1585.
- Morpeth**—Right Hon. Sir George Grey, Bart. Pop. 10,012, reg. elect. 415.
- Newark**—Earl of Lincoln, John Handley. Pop. 11,330, reg. elect. 867.
- Newcastle-under-Lyme**—Samuel Christy, William Jackson. Pop. 10,569, reg. elect. 1090.
- Newcastle-upon-Tyne**—George Ridley, Thomas Emerson Headlam. Pop. 87,781, reg. elect. 5269.
- Newport**—Charles Edward Mangles, Charles Buxton. Pop. 9047, reg. elect. 707.
- New Ross**—Charles Tottenham. Pop. 7513, reg. elect. 193.
- Newry**—William Kirk. Pop. 11,972, reg. elect. 467.
- Norfolk, East**—Major-General C. A. Windham, Sir Edward North Buxton, Bart. Pop. 220,305, reg. elect. 8216.
- Norfolk, West**—George Wm. P. Bentinck, J. Brampton Gordon. Pop. 192,409, reg. elect. 7827.
- Northampton**—William Battle Wrightson. Pop. 4995, reg. elect. 281.
- Northampton**—Right Hon. Robert Vernon Smith, Charles Gilpin. Pop. 26,557, reg. elect. 2253.
- Northamptonshire, North**—Augustus Stafford, Lord Burghley. Pop. 91,801, reg. elect. 3900.
- Northamptonshire, South**—Lord Althorp, Raimund Knightley. Pop. 115,579, reg. elect. 4598.
- Northumberland, North**—Lord Lovaine, Lord Ossulton. Pop. 91,925, reg. elect. 3111.
- Northumberland, South**—Wentworth B. Beumont, Hon. Henry George Liddell. Pop. 211,643, reg. elect. 5369.
- Norwich**—Henry William Schneider, Viscount Bury. Pop. 68,195, reg. elect. 5390.
- Nottingham**—Charles Paget, John Walter. Pop. 57,407, reg. elect. 5200.
- Nottinghamshire, North**—John Evelyn Danison, Lord Robert R. Pelham Clinton. Pop. 190,060, reg. elect. 3996.
- Nottinghamshire, South**—William Hodgson Barrow, Viscount Newark. Pop. 80,367, reg. elect. 5981.
- Oldham**—John Morgan Cobbett. Pop. 72,357, reg. elect. 1890.
- Orkney and Shetland**—Frederick Dundas. Pop. 62,903, reg. elect. 418.
- Oxford**—James Haughton Langston, Right Hon. E. Cardwell. Pop. 27,843, reg. elect. 58.
- Oxfordshire**—Rt. Hon. Jos. Warner Henley, Col. John Sidney North, G. Granville V. Hatfield. Pop. 170,439, reg. elect. 5198.
- Oxford University**—Sir William Heathcote, Bart., Rt. Hon. William E. Gladstone. Electors 3471.
- Paisley**—Archibald Hastie. Pop. 47,920, reg. elect. 1342.
- Peeblesshire**—Sir G. Graham Montgomery, Bart. Pop. 10,738, reg. elect. 542.
- Pembroke**—Sir John Owen, Bart. Pop. 16,700, reg. elect. 951.
- Pembrokeshire**—Visc. Emlyn. Pop. 94,140, reg. elect. 3132.
- Penryn and Falmouth**—Thomas George Baring, Samuel Gurney. Pop. 13,656, reg. elect. 907.
- Perth**—Hon. Arthur Fitz-Gerald Kinaird. Pop. 23,708, reg. elect. 1034.
- Perthshire**—William Stirling. Pop. 122,234, reg. elect. 4938.
- Peterborough**—Hon. G. W. Fitz-William, T. Hanky. Pop. 8672, reg. elect. 518.
- Petersfield**—Sir W. G. H. Jolliffe, Bart. Pop. 5593, reg. elect. 253.
- Plymouth**—Robert P. Collier, J. White. Pop. 24,829, reg. elect. 2482.
- Pontefract**—Rt. M. Milnes, W. Wood. Pop. 11,516, reg. elect. 634.
- Poole**—H. D. Seymour, G. W. Franklyn. Pop. 9255, reg. elect. 508.
- Portsmouth**—Sir S. W. D. Damer. Pop. 3000, reg. elect. 86.
- Portsmouth**—Sir J. D. Horn-Elphinstone, Sir F. T. Baring. Pop. 72,096, reg. elect. 3532.
- Preston**—Charles Pascoe Grenfell, Richard Assheton Cross. Pop. 69,542, reg. elect. 2854.
- Queen's County**—Sir Charles Henry Coote, Bart., Michael Dunne. Pop. 109,757, reg. elect. 2993.
- Radnor**—Right Hon. Sir G. Cornwall Lewis, Bart. Pop. 6533, reg. elect. 481.
- Radnorshire**—Sir John Benn Walsh, Bart. Pop. 21,716, reg. elect. 1802.
- Reading**—Francis Pigott, Henry Singer Keating. Pop. 21,456, reg. elect. 1399.
- Reigate**—William Hackbrook. Pop. 4927, reg. elect. 228.
- Renfrewshire**—Sir Michael Shaw Stewart, Bart. Pop. 161,091, reg. elect. 2450.
- Retford**—East—Viscount Salway, Francis John Savile Follenba. Pop. 46,051, reg. elect. 2554.
- Richmond**—Henry Rich, Marmaduke Wyvill, jun. Pop. 4969, reg. elect. 340.
- Ripon**—John Greenwood, John Ashley Warre. Pop. 6080, reg. elect. 353.
- Rochdale**—Sir Alexander Ramsay. Pop. 29,195, reg. elect. 1160.
- Rochester**—Philip Wykeham Martin, John Alexander Kinglake. Pop. 11,938, reg. elect. 1293.
- Rossconannon**—Fitzstephen French, Oliver J. Grace. Pop. 173,798, reg. elect. 2499.
- Ross and Cromarty**—Sir James Matheson, Bart. Pop. 82,707, reg. elect. 2420.
- Rutlandshire**—Hon. John Edmund Elliot. Pop. 5122, reg. elect. 2001.
- Rutlandshire**—Hon. Gerald James Noel, Hon. Gilbert Henry Heathcote. Pop. 22,983, reg. elect. 1874.
- Rye**—William Alex. Mackinnon, sen. Pop. 5511, reg. elect. 562.
- St. Andrew's**—Edward Elice, jun. Pop. 16,878, reg. elect. 650.
- St. Ives**—Henry Paull. Pop. 9872, reg. elect. 578.
- Salisbury**—William Nathaniel Massey. Pop. 85,108, reg. elect. 2360.
- Salisbury**—Major-Gen. Edw. Pery Buckley, Matthew Henry Marsh. Pop. 11,657, reg. elect. 680.
- Salisbury**—E. H. Knatchbull-Hugessen, Lord Clarence Edward Paget. Pop. 12,710, reg. elect. 960.
- Scarborough**—Sir J. V. B. Johnstone, Bart., the Earl of Mulgrave. Pop. 12,915, reg. elect. 995.
- Selkirkshire**—Allan Elliot Lockhart. Pop. 9809, reg. elect. 497.
- Shaftesbury**—George Grenfell Glyn. Pop. 1408, reg. elect. 509.
- Shedfield**—John Arthur Roobuck, George Hadfield. Pop. 135,310, reg. elect. 5322.
- Shoreham**—Sir Charles M. Buller, Bart., Lord A. F. G. Gordon-Lennox. Pop. 30,553, reg. elect. 1855.
- Sherborne**—George Tomline, Robert Aglionby Slaney. Pop. 19,681, reg. elect. 1666.
- Shropshire, North**—John Whitehall Don, Rowland Clegg Hill. Pop. 128,162, reg. elect. 4683.
- Shropshire, South**—Viscount Newport, Hon. Robert Windsor-Oliver. Pop. 101,179, reg. elect. 3571.
- Sligo, County**—Sir Robert Gore-Booth, Bart., Edward Joshua Cooper. Pop. 128,763, reg. elect. 2518.
- Sligo**—Right Hon. J. Wynne. Pop. 12,272, reg. elect. 351.
- Somersetshire, East**—William Miles, Wm. F. Knatchbull. Pop. 253,911, reg. elect. 1016.
- Somersetshire, West**—Charles Aaron Moody, William H. Powell Gore Langton. Pop. 185,005, reg. elect. 8210.
- Southampton**—Brodie M'Ghie Wilcox, Thos. Matthias Weggelin. Pop. 35,395, reg. elect. 2419.
- South Shields**—Robert Ingham. Pop. 28,974, reg. elect. 925.
- Southwark**—Admiral Sir Charles Napier, John Leach. Pop. 172,863, reg. elect. 948.
- Stafford**—John Ashford Wise, Viscount Ingestre. Pop. 11,829, reg. elect. 1246.
- Staffordshire, North**—Chas. Boyer Adley, Smith Child. Pop. 245,463, reg. elect. 9516.
- Staffordshire, South**—William Emor Foster, Henry John W. Hodggetta Foley. Pop. 363,253, reg. elect. 10,406.
- Stamford**—Sir Frederic Thesiger, Lord Robert A. T. Gascoigne-Cecil. Pop. 8933, reg. elect. 968.
- Stirling**—Sir James Anderson. Pop. 35,325, reg. elect. 1097.
- Stirlingshire**—Peter Blackburn. Pop. 83,033, reg. elect. 2151.
- Stockport**—Alderman James Kershaw, John Benjamin Smith. Pop. 53,835, reg. elect. 1311.
- Stoke-upon-Trent**—Alderman Wm. Copeland, John Lewis Ricardo. Pop. 84,027, reg. elect. 1328.
- Stroud**—George Poulett Scrope, Right Hon. Edward Horsman. Pop. 36,535, reg. elect. 1328.
- Suffolk, East**—Sir Fitzroy Kelly, Lord Hen. Cavendish. Pop. 185,333, reg. elect. 6343.
- Suffolk, West**—Harry Spencer Waddington, Philip Bennet, jun. Pop. 151,822, reg. elect. 4379.
- Sunderland**—Henry Fawcett, George Hudson. Pop. 67,304, reg. elect. 1973.
- Surry, East**—Thomas Alcock, Hon. Peter J. Locke King. Pop. 580,226, reg. elect. 6618.
- Surry, West**—John Ivatt Briscoe, Henry Drummond. Pop. 102,856, reg. elect. 3587.
- Swale**—East—John George Dodson, Viscount Pevensey. Pop. 225,387, reg. elect. 5298.
- Sussex, West**—Earl of March, Henry Wyndham. Pop. 111,457, reg. elect. 3257.
- Sutherlandshire**—Marquis of Stafford. Pop. 25,793, reg. elect. 207.
- Swansea**—Lewis Llewelyn Dillwyn. Pop. 41,123, reg. elect. 1694.
- Tamworth**—Sir R. Peel, Bart., Viscount Raynham. Pop. 8355, reg. elect. 382.
- Taunton**—Right Hon. H. Labouchere, Arthur Mills. Pop. 14,176, reg. elect. 790.
- Tavistock**—A. J. E. Russell, Sir John S. Trevelyan. Pop. 5089, reg. elect. 349.
- Tewkesbury**—Hon. Frederic Lygon, John Martin. Pop. 5878, reg. elect. 370.
- Theford**—Earl of Euston, Hon. Francis Baring. Pop. 4075, reg. elect. 200.
- Thirsk**—Wm. Hayne-Galloway, Bart. Pop. 5319, reg. elect. 337.
- Tipperary**—Laurence Waldron, Daniel O'Donoghue. Pop. 323,829, reg. elect. 7262.
- Tiverton**—John Heathcoat, Viscount Palmerston. Pop. 11,144, reg. elect. 461.
- Totnes**—Earl of Gifford, Thomas Mills. Pop. 4419, reg. elect. 371.
- Tower Hamlets**—Acton Smea Ayrton, Charles Salisbury Butler. Pop. 539,111, reg. elect. 23,531.
- Trarling**—Daniel O'Connell. Pop. 11,353, reg. elect. 315.
- Truro**—Augustus Smith, Edward William Brydges Williams. Pop. 10,733, reg. elect. 607.
- Tynemouth and North Shields**—William Shaw Lindsay. Pop. 29,170, reg. elect. 883.
- Tyrone**—Right Hon. H. T. Lowry Corry, Lord Claude Hamilton. Pop. 251,865, reg. elect. 7423.
- Wakefield**—John C. Dodgson Charlesworth. Pop. 22,057, reg. elect. 850.
- Wallingford**—Richard Malins. Pop. 8064, reg. elect. 428.
- Walsall**—Charles Forster. Pop. 25,680, reg. elect. 1026.
- Wareham**—John Hailes Calcraft. Pop. 7218, reg. elect. 418.
- Warrington**—Gilbert Grenall. Pop. 23,353, reg. elect. 701.
- Warwick**—George Wm. John Repton, Edward Graves. Pop. 10,973, reg. elect. 723.
- Warwickshire, North**—Charles N. Newdegate, Richard Spooner. Pop. 375,261, reg. elect. 7092.
- Warwickshire, South**—Evelyn Philip Shirley, Edward Bolton King. Pop. 99,749, reg. elect. 3890.
- Waterford, County**—Nicholas Mahon Power, John Esmond. Pop. 155,896, reg. elect. 3215.
- Waterford**—John Aloysius Blake, Michael Dobbyn Hassard. Pop. 25,667, reg. elect. 1124.
- Wells**—Right Hon. W. G. Hayter, Hildworth Hytton Jolliffe. Pop. 4736, reg. elect. 325.
- Wenlock**—Right Hon. George C. W. Forester, James Milnes Gaskell. Pop. 20,588, reg. elect. 905.
- Wetherbury**—Sir Lopes Massey Lopes, Bart. Pop. 7029, reg. elect. 314.
- Westmeath**—William Henry Magan, Sir Richard G. A. Levinge, Bart. Pop. 107,510, reg. elect. 3181.
- Westminster**—Sir De Lacy Evans, K.C.B., Sir John Shelley, Bart. Pop. 211,611, reg. elect. 14,883.
- Westmoreland**—Hon. Henry Cecil Lowther, Earl of Beattie. Pop. 55,257, reg. elect. 4062.
- Westford**—County—Patrick McMahon, John Hatchell. Pop. 180,170, reg. elect. 5581.
- Westford**—John Thomas Devereux. Pop. 11,252, reg. elect. 317.
- Weymouth and Melcombe Regis**—Colonel W. L. Freeston, Robert James Iloy Campbell. Pop. 9158, reg. elect. 679.
- Whitby**—Robert Stephenson. Pop. 10,989, reg. elect. 459.
- Whitkaven**—Robert Charles Hildyard. Pop. 18,916, reg. elect. 535.
- Wick**—Lord John Hay. Pop. 16,799, reg. elect. 690.
- Wicklow**—Viscount Milton, William W. F. Hume. Pop. 99,287, reg. elect. 3258.
- Wigan**—Francis Sharpe Powell, Henry Woods. Pop. 31,941, reg. elect. 718.
- Wight (Isle of)**—Charles Cavendish Clifford. Pop. 50,384, reg. elect. 1877.
- Wilton**—Sir William Dunbar, Bart. Pop. 9958, reg. elect. 400.
- Wintonsire**—Sir Andrew Agnew, Bart. Pop. 43,389, reg. elect. 1272.
- Wilton**—Edmund Antrobus. Pop. 8907, reg. elect. 219.
- Wiltshire, North**—Walter Long, T. H. Sutton Sotheron Estcourt. Pop. 151,622, reg. elect. 4995.
- Wiltshire, South**—Right Hon. Sidney Herbert, William Wyndham. Pop. 102,529, reg. elect. 3256.
- Winchester**—John Bonham Carter, Sir James Buller East, Bart. Pop. 13,704, reg. elect. 788.
- Windsor**—William Vansittart, Charles Wm. Grenfell. Pop. 9596, reg. elect. 712.
- Wolverhampton**—Hon. Charles Pelham Villiers, Thomas Thornclay. Pop. 119,748, reg. elect. 388.
- Woodstock**—Lord A. S. Churchill. Pop. 7983, reg. elect. 347.
- Worcester**—William Laslett, Osman Ricardo. Pop. 27,528, reg. elect. 2290.
- Worcestershire, East**—Colonel George Washout, John Hodgkiss H. Foley. Pop. 162,508, reg. elect. 6515.
- Worcestershire, West**—Frederic W. Knight, Viscount Elmley. Pop. 114,418, reg. elect. 4185.
- Wycombe, Chipping**—Sir George H. Dashwood, Bart., Martin Tucker Smith. Pop. 7179, reg. elect. 316.
- Yarmouth**—A. W. Young, J. Mellor. Pop. 30,879, reg. elect. 1249.
- York**—Joshua P. Brown Westhead, John George Smyth. Pop. 40,359, reg. elect. 4133.
- Yorkshire, East Riding**—Lord Hotham, Hon. Arthur Duncombe. Pop. 220,983, reg. elect. 7588.
- Yorkshire, North Riding**—Hon. Octavius Duncombe, Edward Stillingfleet Cayley. Pop. 281,116, reg. elect. 11,319.
- Yorkshire, West Riding**—Edmund Beckett Denison, Lord Gederich. Pop. 1,315,896, reg. elect. 37,319.
- Youghal**—Isaac Butt. Pop. 9939, reg. elect. 217.

PARLIAMENT.—The Commons are not the Parliament, neither are the Lords nor the Crown; but the three united are the "Estates," which in their triple capacity constitute the Parliament, and exercise the legislative functions of the realm. A Peer is of course as much a member of Parliament as a Commoner, while the Crown is a whole estate of Parliament centered in the person of an individual. The two Houses, convened by Royal authority, and acting jointly with the Crown, constitute the Legislature or Parliament; and its Acts are called indifferently "Statutes" or "Acts of Parliament;" they have the full force and effect of law. The power of Parliament is held to be transcendent, and subject to no limitation whatever. An Act of Parliament binds every subject, and even the Sovereign, when specially named therein; and no authority less than that of Parliament can dispense with or abrogate a Statute.—*Dod's Parliamentary Companion.*

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

FEBRUARY.

THE SUN passes from the sign of Aquarius to that of Pisces at 9h. 37m. P.M. of the 18th. It is situated south of the Equator, and moving northward.

The MOON is near Mercury on the 11th, near Venus on the 13th, near Jupiter on the 19th, near Uranus on the 20th, and near Saturn on the 24th. An eclipse occurs on the evening of the 27th, which will be visible at London. It is most distant from the earth on the afternoon of the 7th, and nearest to it on the evening of the 22nd.

Last Quarter occurs at 16 minutes past 9 on the evening of the 5th.
New Moon " 13 " 10 on the evening of the 13th.
First Quarter " 58 " midnight of the 20th.
Full Moon .. " 5 " 10 on the evening of the 27th.

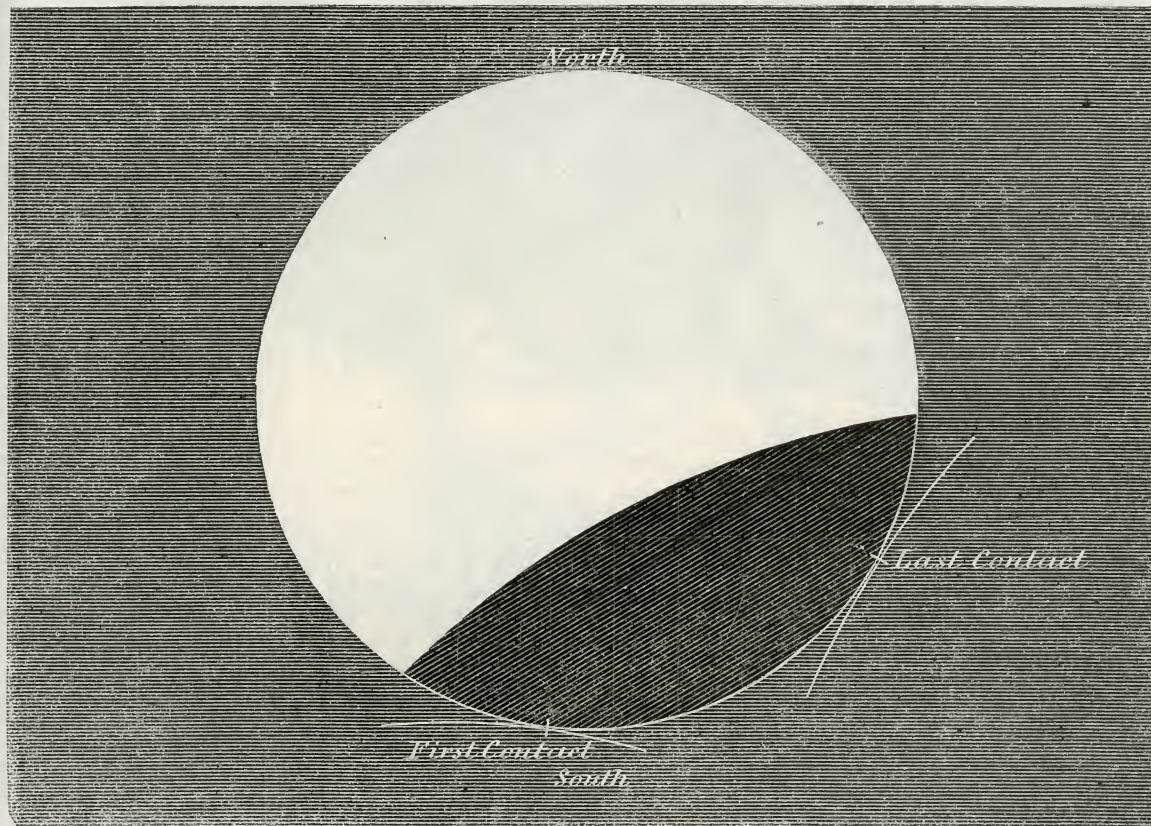
MERCURY is in the constellation of Sagittarius at the commencement of the month, and in that of Capricornus at the end of the month. It rises at 6h. 20m. A.M. on Feb. 1 in the S.E. It is at its greatest westerly elongation on the morning of the 8th, when it rises one hour and twelve minutes before the Sun, and is most favourably situated for viewing. It is near the Moon on the morning the 12th.

Taurus, Perseus, Cassiopeia, Andromeda, Triangulum, and Aries. In the S.W. horizon a few of the stars of Eridanus and Cetus are visible. Alpha Andromeda is situated in the W.N.W.; and a little to the N. of it, and lower, is Beta Pegasi. Cygnus is still in the N.W., and Lyra is direct N. In the N.E. a few of the stars of Boötes and Corona Borealis make their appearance, and in the E. we have those of Leo, Leo Minor, and Coma Berenices. The S.E. is occupied by the small and poor groups of Hydra and Sextans.

TIME OF SOUTHING OF THE PRINCIPAL STARS WHICH PASS THE MERIDIAN BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 14TH OF FEBRUARY.

Aldebaran 6h. 50m. P.M.	Sirius 9h. 1m. P.M.
Capella 7 28 "	Castor 9 48 "
Rigel 7 29 "	Procyon 9 54 "
Delta Orionis .. 7 47 "	Pollux 9 59 "
Alpha Orionis .. 8 9 "	Alpha Hydræ .. 11 43 "

A partial ECLIPSE OF THE MOON takes place on the evening of the 27th, which is the only one visible in the British Islands during the pre-



LUNAR ECLIPSE ON FEBRUARY 27, 1858.

VENUS is in superior conjunction to the Sun on the afternoon of the 28th, and is unfavourably situated for observation, the diameter of its disc being less than ten seconds, and almost round. It arrives at its greatest distance from the Sun on the 9th, and is a degree and a quarter north of the Moon at 2 p.m. of the 13th. It rises a few minutes before the Sun at the beginning of the month, and a few minutes after it on the 28th of February. It is in Capricornus at the beginning, and in Aquarius at the end, of the month.

MARS is now increasing in brilliancy, and may be perceived in the S.E. late in the night, rising at an hour past midnight on the 1st of February, and at twenty minutes past midnight at the end of the month. It is near the Moon on the night of the 5th. It is in the constellation of Libra during the whole of February, being situated about a degree north of Alpha Libræ on the 3rd.

JUPITER is an evening star during the month, but is gradually decreasing in lustre. It sets at 6h. 51m. A.M. on the 1st of February in the N.E., and at 11h. 23m. P.M. on the last day of February. It is near the Moon on the evening of the 19th, and is situated in the constellation of Aries throughout the month.

SATURN continues equally well situated for observation during this month as the last, and is moving northwards. It remains in the constellation of Gemini throughout the month, and the appearance it presents in a telescope is nearly the same as that during the month of January. It is near the Moon on the 24th. It remains visible during the whole of the night.

At the middle of February, at 9 P.M., the constellations of Canis Major, Monoceros, Orion, and Gemini, are on the S. meridian, and Auriga and Lynx near the zenith. In the western sky are the constellations of

sent year. The point of the Moon with which the shadow of the Earth first comes in contact is nearly the most southerly point of its surface (the upper point in the diagram being that which is directed to the North Pole), and the last contact will take place towards the west. This eclipse will be visible throughout its whole course in Europe and Africa; at the commencement it will be visible in Asia and Australia, and towards the end also in America. The first contact with the penumbra or lesser shadow takes place at 7h. 47m. P.M., and the last contact at forty minutes past midnight. The time of first contact with the real shadow takes place at 9h. 10m. P.M., and that of last contact at 11h. 17m. P.M. The greatest obscuration takes place at 10h. 14m., when the Moon will appear as in the above diagram, only one-third of its diameter being obscured by the shadow of the Earth. The phenomena witnessed during a partial lunar eclipse are few, and the uncertainty as to the exact moment at which the ill-defined margin of the shadow touches the edge of the Moon, or passes over any of its mountains, make these observations unfit for the delicate determination of longitudes. During a total eclipse of the Moon, as is well known, its light is in general not altogether extinguished, but the different parts of its surface can be well seen, although somewhat dimmed in lustre; and on some occasions, at the instant of total obscuration, it has been so slightly diminished in brightness that it was difficult to believe that it was really eclipsed. This, however, is not always the case, and instances are on record where the Moon had altogether disappeared, although the sky was clear enough to be able to perceive stars of the fifth magnitude. This variation in the intensity of its light is due to the state of the atmosphere at that part of the Earth where the rays of the Sun impinge, and which by refraction pass into the disc of the Moon.

MARCH

1858



MARCH THIRTY-ONE DAYS.

Day of Month.	Day of Week.	ANNIVERSARIES, FESTIVALS, REMARKABLE EVENTS	SUN.				MOON.				HIGH WATER AT								PLANETS.						
			Rises at London.		SOUTHS.		Sets at London.		Rises at London.		SOUTHS.		Sets at London.		Age.		LONDON BRIDGE.		LIVERPOOL DOCK.		Day of M.	Rise.		South.	Set.
			H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	S.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	Morn.	Aftern.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.		H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	
1	M	<i>St. David</i>	6 48	12 12	35 5	38	7 53	1 3	7 15	16	3 8	3 23	0 1	0 20	Mercury.	1	6 24	M	11 2	M	3 41	A			
2	Tu	<i>St. Chad.</i>	6 46	12 12	23 5	40	9 10	1 47	7 26	17	3 42	3 59	0 37	0 53		6	6 23		11 14		4 4				
3	W	Sun rises at Dublin 6h 47m	6 44	12 12	10 5	42	10 26	2 29	7 37	18	4 15	4 32	1 10	1 25		11	6 19		11 27		4 37				
4	Th	Sun sets at Dublin 5h 41m	6 42	12 11	57 5	43	11 41	3 13	7 49	19	4 47	5 0	1 38	1 54		16	6 15		11 40		5 5				
5	F	Sun rises at Edinburgh 6h 44m	6 40	12 11	43 5	45	Morn.	3 58	8 6	20	5 16	5 32	2 10	2 26		21	6 7		11 55		5 42				
6	S	Sun sets at Edinburgh 5h 44m	6 37	12 11	29 5	47	0 56	4 45	8 27	21	5 48	6 4	2 42	2 59	26	6 0		0 11	A	6 23					
7	S	<i>Perpet. 3d S. in L.</i>	6 35	12 11	15 5	49	2 8	5 34	8 57	22	6 21	6 42	3 20	3 41	Venus.	1	6 57		0 16		5 36				
8	M	Day breaks 4h 37m	6 33	12 11	0 5	50	3 12	6 26	9 38	23	7 3	7 28	4 6	4 39		6	6 48		0 19		5 51				
9	Tu	Twilight ends 7h 46m	6 31	12 10	45 5	52	4 5	7 18	10 33	24	8 1	8 44	5 22	6 11		11	6 38		0 22		6 10				
10	W	Length of day at London 11h 26m	6 28	12 10	29 5	54	4 44	8 9	11 39	25	9 33	10 21	6 59	7 48		16	6 29		0 26		6 22				
11	Th	Length of day at Dublin 11h 28m	6 26	12 10	13 5	55	5 14	9 0	Aftern.	26	11 10	11 50	8 28	9 5		21	6 18		0 28		6 39				
12	F	<i>St. Gregory</i>	6 24	12 9	57 5	57	5 35	9 49	2 14	27	—	0 27	9 31	9 52	Mars.	1	0 22		4 53	M	9 24	M			
13	S	Length of day at Edinburgh 11h 35m	6 22	12 9	41 5	59	5 52	10 36	3 34	28	0 53	1 14	10 12	10 32		6	0 12		4 40		9 8				
14	S	<i>4th S. in LENT</i>	6 20	12 9	24 6	1	6 4	11 22	4 56	29	1 34	1 54	10 50	11 6		11	0 1		4 27		8 52				
15	M	Day breaks 4h 22m	6 17	12 9	7 6	3	6 16	Aftern.	6 17	30	2 12	2 28	11 22	11 38		16	11 46	A	4 13		8 36				
16	Tu	Twilight ends 7h 58m	6 15	12 8	50 6	4	6 29	0 55	7 40	1	2 44	3 0	11 53	—		21	11 34		3 58		8 19				
17	W	<i>St. Patrick</i>	6 13	12 8	32 6	6	6 41	1 43	9 7	2	3 15	3 33	0 11	0 28	Jupiter.	1	8 42	M	4 1	A	11 20	A			
18	Th	<i>P. Louisa b., 1848</i>	6 10	12 8	15 6	7	6 57	2 35	10 36	3	3 50	4 5	0 45	1 3		6	8 24		3 45		11 6				
19	F	Length of day at London 12h 1m	6 8	12 7	57 6	9	7 17	3 30	Morn.	4	4 25	4 45	1 23	1 40		11	8 7		3 29		10 51				
20	S	Spring com.	6 6	12 7	39 6	11	7 45	4 30	0 6	5	5 2	5 22	2 0	2 21		16	7 49		3 13		10 37				
21	S	<i>5th S. in LENT</i>	6 3	12 7	21 6	12	8 26	5 33	1 32	6	5 43	6 6	2 44	3 10		21	7 31		2 57		10 24				
22	M	Length of day at Dublin 12h 15m	6 1	12 7	2 6	14	9 25	6 35	2 44	7	6 32	6 59	3 37	4 9	Saturn.	1	0 52	A	8 57		5 6	M			
23	Tu	Length of day at Edinburgh 12h 22m	5 59	12 6	4 6	16	10 40	7 36	3 37	8	7 31	8 12	4 50	5 41		6	0 31		8 37		4 46				
24	W	Day breaks 4h 0m	5 57	12 6	26 6	18	Aftern.	8 33	4 13	9	9 3	9 56	6 34	7 24		11	0 10		8 17		4 27				
25	Th	<i>Annunc. Lady-d.</i>	5 54	12 6	7 6	19	1 31	9 24	4 39	10	10 40	11 33	8 11	8 49		16	11 50	M	7 57		4 7				
26	F	<i>Cam. Term ends</i>	5 52	12 5	49 6	21	2 55	10 12	4 56	11	—	0 11	9 19	9 43		21	11 31		7 37		3 47				
27	S	<i>Oxf. Term ends</i>	5 50	12 5	30 6	23	4 14	10 57	5 10	12	0 41	1 5	10 3	10 26	Uranus.	26	11 10		7 17		3 28				
28	S	<i>PALM SUNDAY</i>	5 47	12 5	11 6	24	5 33	11 40	5 22	13	1 25	1 48	10 44	11 0		1	9 11		4 57		0 46				
29	M	Twilight ends 8h 26m	5 45	12 4	53 6	26	6 49	Morn.	5 33	14	2 6	2 22	11 17	11 33		6	8 52		4 37		0 27				
30	Tu	Sun rises at Dublin 5h 39m	5 43	12 4	34 6	27	8 5	0 23	5 44	15	2 39	2 55	11 49	—		11	8 32		4 18		0 8				
31	W	Sun rises at Edinburgh 5h 33m	5 41	12 4	16 6	29	9 21	1 6	5 57	16	3 11	3 29	0 7	0 22		16	8 13		3 59		11 45	A			



ITALIAN WOMAN AND CHILD. PAINTED BY C. BROCKY.—FROM THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."

POPULAR FLOWERS OF THE SEASONS.

MARCH AND APRIL.

AMONG the flowers of early spring which decorate our gardens or our woodlands, the following, selected as particularly interesting, viz.—the Almond (*Amigdalus communis*), the Violet (*Viola odorata*), the Great Jonquil (*Narcissus odorata*), the Crown Imperial (*Fritillaria Imperialis*), and the Hyacinth (*Hyacinthus orientalis*)—are represented in the opposite engraving.

The Almond, which in an ornamental point of view is of more importance than the peach, although they are nearly identical in general appearance, forms a small tree, conspicuous in shrubberies in the early spring for the profusion of lively pink flowers with which the branches become loaded, almost before the foliage shows any indications of activity. The tree forms a spreading mass of twiggly branches, which are furnished with the long narrow or oblong lance-shaped saw-edged leaves; and the flowers burst singly from the round prominent buds with which the twigs of the previous year's growth are studded. These flowers consist of a bell-shaped reddish calyx or outer cup, having five blunt segments; next, a corolla of five pink, spreading, ovate, concave petals, much larger than the calyx, and notched irregularly; then numerous stamens from the edge of the calyx-tube; and, finally, in the centre, a woolly ovary, which grows into a moderate-sized fruit, in which, encased in a thin fleshy covering, surrounded by a velvety outer skin, lies the oblong rugged stone which incloses the seed, this seed being an almond. There are two kinds of almond-tree—one having larger flowers, and bearing sweet almonds; the other having much smaller flowers, and producing bitter almonds. The former are familiarly known as an article of dessert—the latter from their use for flavouring in confectionery and domestic economy. Sweet almonds are farinaceous, and contain a large proportion of oil; but they are apt to prove indigestible, and their skin is irritating, and should always be removed before they are eaten. Bitter almonds yield an extremely poisonous oil, containing, as well as the distilled water, abundance of prussic acid. In this instance, therefore, we have the bland sweet almond, and the poisonous bitter almond, both produced from one kind of tree, of which there are different varieties, having these distinct properties. The well-known luscious peach is scarcely different from the almond, except in the abundant juicy flesh, which forms its grateful fruit, and even of this the kernels abound in the same kind of poisonous oil which is obtained from the bitter almond. In our gardens the almond is of more importance as an early-flowering ornamental tree than for its fruit. It has been noticed that the spring frosts, which often occur about the flowering period of this tree, and do considerable injury by destroying the germs of the fruit, do not damage the flowers, but rather increase their brilliancy. Thus an almond-tree, white with frost in the evening, will be of a brilliant rose-colour the following morning, and will often retain its beauty for a considerable period. The almond, as a standard tree, one of the principal ornaments of shrubberies and plantations in early spring, flowering in mild seasons so early as February, but more usually in March. The almond-tree prefers a dry, sandy, or chalky soil, of some depth, and should be planted in sheltered situations. Being, moreover, planted for the sake of its flowers, and these flowers appearing while the tree itself is bare of leaves, its full effect is not realised unless it is planted among evergreens. It represents the Almond family. The blossoms usually become whitish in age, hence:—

The hope, in dreams of a happier hour,
That alights on misery's brow,
Springs forth like the silvery almond flower,
That blooms on a leafless bough.

The Violet, that universal favourite, which so sweetly perfumes the morning air of spring, and embroiders the wayside banks, is considered the emblem of modesty; while the White Violet, a variety of the common kind, is made the emblem of innocence. The violet is found naturally in thickets, or on banks where it has a partial shade, and prefers a rich lightish soil. It is a perennial herb, with a short erect stem, sending out long, prostrate stems, called runners, by means of which new plants are established around the old. The leaves are roundish, heart-shaped, with the margin slightly scalloped, long-stalked, the base of the stalks having on each side a lance-shaped toothed leaflet of a peculiar kind, called a stipule. The flowers grow up from amongst these leaves singly, their stalks being of about the same length as those of the leaves themselves, having about halfway up a calyx of five blunt segments, and leaf-like bodies. The flowers consist of a calyx of five blunt segments, which are unequal at the base; a corolla of five unequal petals, of which the lateral ones are hairy at the base, the upper ones smallest, oblong, and the lower one largest and having a spur at its base; five stamens, nearly sessile, furnished with a thin lance-shaped appendage, tipped with orange, extending beyond them, the two lower ones having at their base a broad, curved, green appendage, extending into the spur of the lower petal; and the ovary, which is surmounted by a hooked stigma, and grows into an ovate, oblong, triangular seed-vessel, of three valves, which, when ripe, burst with some force, and scatter the seeds to a considerable distance. Some flowers of the violet, produced in summer, do not possess any visible corolla, but as they contain what are called the essential organs—namely, the stamens and pistil—these inconspicuous blossoms generally perfect seed. The structure of the flowers of the violet is very curious, and will well repay a careful examination. When the calyx and corolla are carefully removed, leaving only the essential parts of fructification, a miniature bird is represented, the stigma forming the head and beak, the anthers a golden breast, and their appendages appear like a pair of green wings. The petals of this flower have a somewhat laxative property, and are used medicinally for children; the root is emetic and purgative. An aqueous tincture of the flowers forms a useful chemical test, the blue colour being changed by acids to red, and by alkalis to green. The flowers are by some persons considered anodyne; while in some constitutions they produce faintness and giddiness. Violets are easily cultivated; they require good soil and moderate shade, and should be occasionally, but not often, transplanted. In gardens their place is mostly occupied by double-flowered varieties, which have been produced by cultivation, and which are superior to them in fragrance and in an ornamental point of view; although they are far less interesting in structure than the wildings of the woods. The violet is the representative of a small family of plants.

Few garden flowers are more highly esteemed than the Hyacinth, which, as it admits of being cultivated in pots and glasses within doors, is also one of the most domesticated of all popular flowers. Its popularity is by no means of recent date, for it is said that crowns of hyacinths were worn

by the young Greek virgins of ancient times, when assisting at the weddings of their friends. The plant is a native of the East, and was introduced to this country during the sixteenth century. The hyacinth is a true bulbous plant, its bulbs consisting, like those of the onion, of concentric coats laid one over the other, these coats or layers being seated on a depressed conical base, from the edges of which the fibrous roots issue. The leaves appear from the crown of the bulb, few in number, long, narrowish, and somewhat hollowed on the upper surface, of a fleshy texture, and bright green colour. In the centre appears a stem, averaging about a foot in height, supporting a spike or truss of flowers, which are either spreading or pendent, varied in colour through many shades of blue, rosy red, and pink to pure white, and deliciously fragrant. The single kinds have bell-shaped flowers, the centre of the bell being open, and containing only the stamen, while the double-flowered sorts have the centre of the bell filled up with small coloured leaves into which the stamens are converted. As regards the individual flowers, the double kinds are generally larger and more durable than the single ones, but the latter are produced more numerous on the spike, so that the mass is generally larger and more compact, and hence the effect of a fine single hyacinth is superior to that of many double kinds, besides which they are more vigorous in habit. The flowers of the hyacinth have no separate calyx and corolla, but the whole of these parts are blended, as it were, into one coloured series, which is here called the perianth, the base of which is tubular, ending in six reflexed segments. These plants are cultivated both in the open garden and in pots and glasses for the house. In light, rich garden soil they will grow very well, and have a fine appearance, either planted in patches of distinct colours in the borders, or in a bed with the colours judiciously intermixed. To have them good the soil should be removed annually, and renewed with a mixture of rotten turfy loam, decayed cow manure, and coarse river or sea sand, in about equal proportions; but this will not be necessary for the production of blooms of ordinary quality, although, if the garden soil is not good, and of a rather light, open texture, it will require to be rendered so. The bulbs should be planted, in dry weather, about the end of September, or in October; they should be put five or six inches beneath the surface. For pot culture the bulbs should be planted about the end of August and the end of September, using similar compost to that recommended for the beds, and pots of about five inches diameter for single bulbs. The soil should be pressed rather firm, and the bulbs about half buried, having the upper part exposed. After planting and watering the pots are to be covered over with five or six inches of old tan or coal ashes, which is to remain until the bulbs have filled the pots with roots, when the leaves will be just beginning to grow; they are then to be taken out, cleaned, and removed to a greenhouse, or frame, or the window of a room, being kept constantly in a light and airy place, so that the leaves and flowers may grow up sturdily. They should never be allowed to grow on the mantelpiece, which is in any case too dark, and, if a fire is kept up, much too exciting for the leaves and stems; but in severe frosty nights they are better removed from the window and returned in the morning. Hyacinths for glasses may be planted by the end of October, or during November. Dark-coloured glasses are the best. In all cases they should be kept in a dark place until the roots have grown to some length in the water. Rain-water should be used, and requires to be changed occasionally during the growth of the plants. The base of the bulb only should come in contact with the water. The hyacinth possesses a viviparous nature, and throws off perfect plants from its sides beneath the earth. It belongs to the Lily family.

The Jonquil, in floral language the emblem of desire, is the most fragrant of this fragrant race of Narcissi, and is distinguished among them by its rush-like leaves and bright yellow flowers. It is a bulbous plant, of a nature similar to the hyacinth, but is of a more hardy character. The leaves are few in number, and the flower stems grow up a foot or more in height, producing generally about two flowers, which are more or less drooping, and of a uniform bright yellow. The flower here, though composed entirely of coloured leaves, and of the kind called a perianth, as in the hyacinth, is yet very different in structure; there is first a long narrow tube, and then a flat spreading limb, producing a general outline like that of the primrose flower. This limb consists of two alternating series, each of these parts differing slightly in breadth, but recognisable, forming the petaline and sepaline segments; from the mouth of the tube, however, springs up a part altogether wanting in the hyacinth, and called a coronet, which in this case forms a chalice-like body in the centre of the flower; within the tube are six stamens, three longer than the rest, and the style; the entire flower growing at the end of the three-cornered ovary, which again grows into the three-valved seed-vessel. The plants are quite hardy, and only require to be planted in good garden soil, and left undisturbed. The double-flowered jonquils, however, a race produced under high cultivation, require to be taken up and replanted annually, in order to preserve their peculiarities. The flowering season is April. The plant belongs to the Amaryllis family.

The Crown Imperial, a native of Persia, was received by way of Constantinople during the latter part of the sixteenth century. It is a stately liliaceous plant, towering above the flowers of our vernal parterres in truly regal state. The stem grows a yard or more in height, erect, furnished plentifully with long narrowish leaves, and near the top, on a naked part of the stem, is supported a circle of tulip-shaped flowers, which are turned downwards, and have the appearance of so many gay bells, the stigma answering to the clapper; the whole is crowned with a coma or tuft of the green leaves, which produce a singular and very pleasing appearance. The stems spring from a large fleshy bulb. The flowers are very curious; they consist of a perianth of six petal-like segments, sometimes yellow, and sometimes coppery red, at the base of each of which is an excavation or pit, technically a nectary; this singular organ, which cannot but engage the attention of the curious observer, is a white glandular cavity, and has a drop of limpid juice standing in it when the flower is in vigour; within the flower are six long stamens, and the ovary grows into a hexagonal capsule. The bulbs have a peculiar, unpleasant odour compared to that of the fox; they are large, round, scaly bodies, and increase by means of offsets, which are young bulbs that separate from the sides. The plant is quite hardy, and may be grown in any good garden soil, the bulbs being planted about six inches deep, and left undisturbed from year to year. The beauty of this magnificent flower will even secure it a situation in pleasure-gardens; and it is equally suitable for the centre parts of large flower borders, or to intermix with dwarf shrubs in more sylvan scenery. It is, moreover, says Phillips, one of the few flowers which, like noble personages, is seen to the best effect when planted singly.



MARCH AND APRIL

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

MARCH.

THE SUN is situated south of the Equator and in the 'sign' of Pisces until 9h. 32m. P.M. of March 20, when it passes into the sign of Aries, and is then north of the Equator.

The MOON is situated near Mars on the night of the 5th, near Mercury on the 14th, near Venus on the 15th, near Jupiter on the 18th, near Uranus on the 19th, and near Saturn on the 23rd. On the 15th it passes between the Sun and the Earth, and its shadow will pass over the British Islands (see above). It is most distant from the Earth on the 7th, and nearest on the afternoon of the 19th.

Last Quarter occurs at 10 minutes past 6 on the evening of the 7th.

New Moon " 12 " noon of the 15th.

First Quarter " 42 " 7 on the morning of the 22nd.

Full Moon " 7 " noon of the 29th.

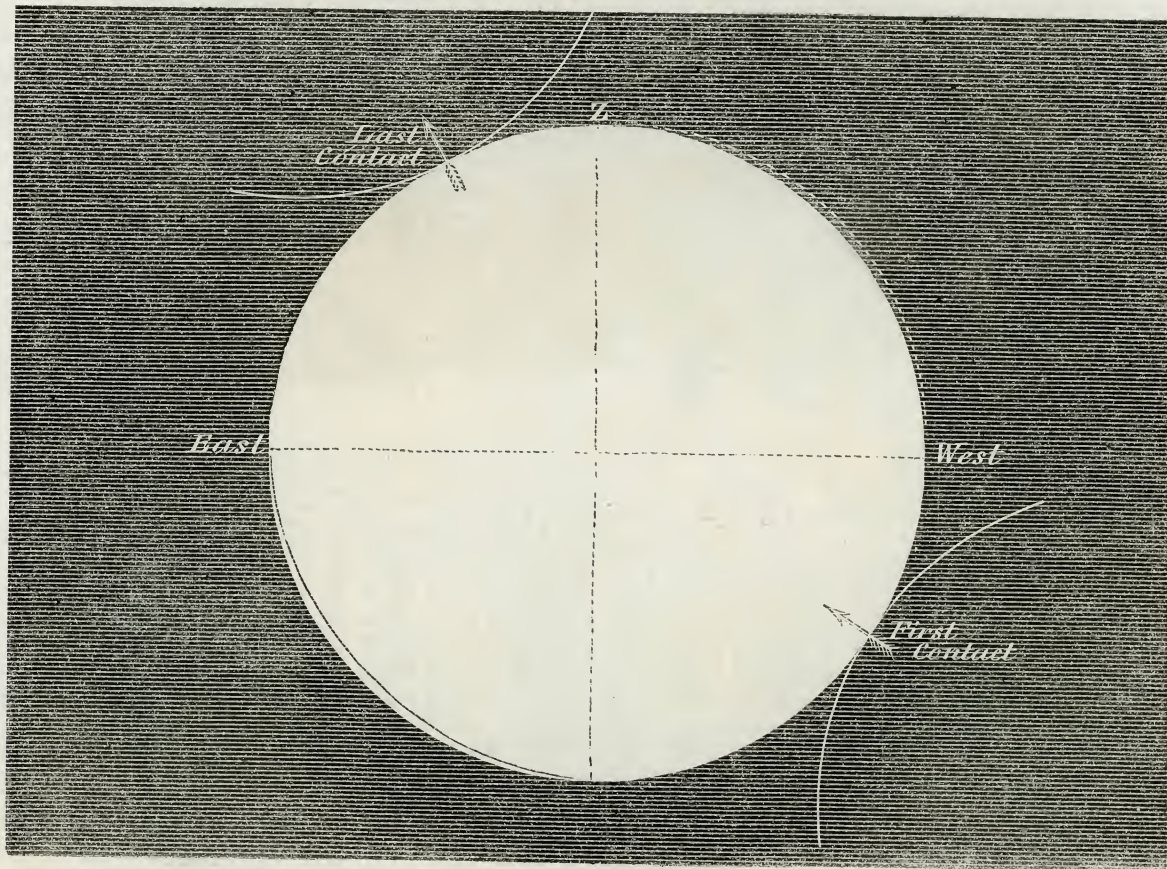
MERCURY is near Delta Capricorni on March 1, and passes through the constellation of Aquarius to that of Pisces, where it is situated at the end of the month. It arrives at superior conjunction with the Sun on March 25; and is unfavourably situated for being seen with the naked eye. On the 14th it is near the Moon. At the beginning of the month it rises shortly before the Sun, and sets after it at the latter end of March.

groups of the Hyades and Pleiades), Orion, and Canis Major. The constellations of Cassiopeia, Perseus, Andromeda, and Aries illumine the N.W. sky. Direct N. are the constellations of Cepheus and Draco, whilst the Lyra appears a little later in the night in the N.E., though considerably diminished in splendour, until it passes above the mists of the horizon. In the E. and N.E. we have the bright stars of Boötes and the well-defined constellations of the Northern Crown. In the S.E., a little above the horizon, the constellation of Virgo is situated, and higher up the group of Leo and Coma Berenices.

TIME OF SOUTHING OF THE PRINCIPAL STARS WHICH PASS THE MERIDIAN BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 15TH OF MARCH.

Castor	7h. 53m. P.M.	Regulus	10h. 28m. P.M.
Procyon	7 59 "	Gamma Leonis ..	10 39 "
Pollux	8 4 "	Alpha Ursæ Majoris	11 22 "
Epsilon Hydræ ..	9 6 "	Delta Leonis ..	11 34 "
Alpha Hydræ ..	9 48 "		

The most remarkable ECLIPSE OF THE SUN which has occurred for many years in the British Islands, and which will be the most considerable of any that will take place before August 19, 1887, is that of March 15, 1858. The light of the Sun will not, however, be wholly extinguished in the



ECLIPSE OF THE SUN MARCH 15, 1858.

VENUS is likewise unfavourably situated for being seen with the naked eye, being at its greatest distance from the Earth on March 4. It is situated near the Moon on the 15th. On March 31 it sets forty minutes after the Sun in the W.N.W. It is in the constellation of Aquarius at the beginning, and in that of Pisces at the end of the month.

MARS continues to increase in brightness throughout the month; but the mists of the horizon prevent it from being seen in its full lustre. It is in the constellation of Libra at the beginning, and in that of Scorpio at the end of the month; and is very close to Beta Scorpis between March 28 and 30, being direct north of it on the former day, and direct west of it at the latter time. It is near the Moon on March 5.

JUPITER is now gradually passing away from view, and sets about two hours after twilight, at the end of the month, in the N.W. It is situated near the Moon on the 18th. It is in the constellation of Aries throughout the month.

SATURN continues to be the principal and best-situated planetary object throughout this month, arriving at its greatest northerly declination on March 27. Its appearance in a telescope is but little different from that exhibited in January or February. It does not set until five o'clock in the morning at the beginning of the month, and about three o'clock at the end. It is near the Moon on the 23rd, and remains in the constellation of Gemini during the month.

At the middle of March, at 9 P.M., the western sky is very rich in stars, and the E. is comparatively poor. In the northern sky the constellations of Cygnus, Cepheus, and Ursa Major are situated, in the zenith that of Lynx, and in the southern meridian the groups of Cancer, Hydra, and Monoceros; in the W. and S.W. are the constellations of Taurus (with the

present instance, the Eclipse being annular, and not total. The line of central eclipse in England will pass a little to the north of Bridport, a little to the south of Yeovil; a little to the north of Sherborne, Marlborough, Oxford, Buckingham, and Wisbeach; and a little to the south of Trowbridge, Devizes, Swindon, Chipping Norton, Banbury, Towcester, Northampton, Oundle, and Peterborough. Bridport, Sherborne, Buckingham, and Peterborough are situated very near the line of central eclipse. The point of the Sun's circumference at which the margin of the Moon first touches is seen in the diagram—the uppermost point on the margin of the Sun, or that directed to the zenith, being denoted by the letter Z. The eclipse commences at London at 11h. 41m. A.M. of March 15, and ends at 2h. 17m. P.M.; and the period of greatest obscuration occurs at about twenty seconds past one o'clock, when the only portion of the Sun visible will be a very narrow crescent in the south-eastern part of its disc (represented in the diagram). At Edinburgh the eclipse commences at 11h. 30m. A.M. of mean Edinburgh time, and ends at 2h. 13m. P.M.; the moment of greatest darkness occurring at 4m. past noon. At Dublin the eclipse begins at 11h. 11m. A.M. of mean Dublin time, and ends at 1h. 46m. P.M.; the moment of greatest obscuration occurring at 29m. past noon. The point of first contact, for Dublin and Edinburgh, is the same as given in the above diagram; but the point of last contact will be farther from the zenith than is here represented—being about forty degrees from the vertex of the Sun towards the east. The various phenomena noticed during an eclipse of the Sun is treated of at the end of the Almanack. The above diagram represents the points of first and last contact, as seen by the naked eye, or in an erecting telescope.

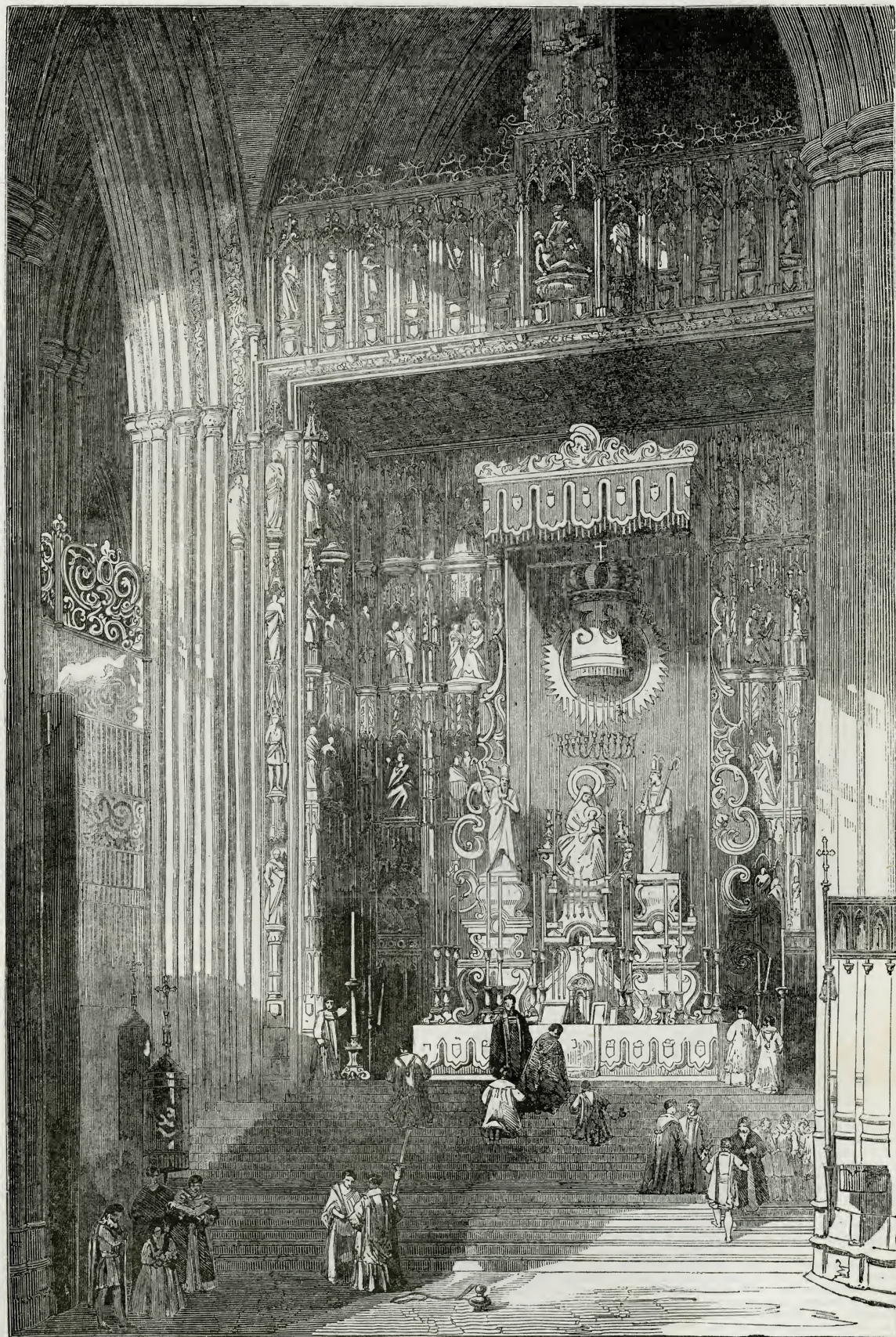
APRIL

1858



"APRIL THIRTY DAYS.

Day of Month.	Day of Week.	ANNIVERSARIES, FESTIVALS, REMARKABLE EVENTS.	SUN.						MOON.						HIGH WATER AT								PLANETS.					
			Rises at London.			SETS at London.			Rises at London.			SETS at London.			LONDON BRIDGE.				LIVERPOOL DOCK.				Day of M.	Rise.		South.		Set.
			H. M.	H. M.	S.	H. M.	H. M.	S.	H. M.	H. M.	S.	H. M.	H. M.	S.	H. M.	H. M.	S.	H. M.	H. M.	S.	H. M.	H. M.		S.				
																									Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	
1	Th	Maundy Thursd.	5 38	12	3 57	6 31	10 37	1 51	6 10	17	3 44	3 59	0 37	0 52	Mercury.	1	11	5 52	M	0 31	A	7 13	A					
2	F	GOOD FRIDAY	5 36	12	3 39	6 33	11 50	2 37	6 30	18	4 14	4 29	1 7	1 22			6	5 44		0 48		7 53						
3	S	Day breaks 3h 31m	5 34	12	3 21	6 34	Morn.	3 26	6 56	19	4 44	5 1	1 39	1 53			11	5 36		1 2		8 32						
4	S	EASTER SUNDAY	5 32	12	3 36	6 36	0 59	4 17	7 33	20	5 15	5 34	2 12	2 31			16	5 28		1 12		8 57						
5	M	Easter Monday	5 29	12	2 45	6 38	1 56	5 8	8 21	21	5 53	6 12	2 50	3 12			21	5 16		1 14		9 12						
6	Tu	Easter Tuesday	5 27	12	2 28	6 39	2 41	6 0	9 24	22	6 34	6 58	3 36	4 5	26	5 4		1 8		9 12								
7	W	Sun rises at Dublin 5h 23m	5 25	12	2 11	6 41	3 13	6 50	10 34	23	7 27	8 4	4 42	5 32	Venus.	1	5 59		0 35		7 11							
8	Th	Sun sets at Dublin 6h 44m	5 22	12	1 54	6 42	3 38	7 39	11 50	24	8 54	9 40	6 18	7 2			6	5 50		0 39		7 30						
9	F	Sun rises at Edinburgh 5h 12m	5 20	12	1 37	6 44	3 56	8 27	Aftern.	25	10 24	11 6	7 44	8 18			11	5 41		0 42		7 45						
10	S	Sun sets at Edinburgh 6h 56m	5 18	12	1 20	6 46	4 11	9 12	2 29	26	11 40	—	8 49	9 11			16	5 32		0 46		8 2						
11	S	LOW SUNDAY	5 16	12	1 46	6 47	4 23	9 58	3 50	27	0 11	0 33	9 32	9 52			21	5 23		0 50		8 19						
12	M	Day breaks at 3h 6m	5 13	12	0 48	6 49	4 35	10 44	5 12	28	0 54	1 14	10 11	10 28	26	5 17		0 55		8 34								
13	Tu	Twilight ends at 9h 2m	5 11	12	0 32	6 51	4 48	11 32	6 39	29	1 33	1 50	10 45	11 3	Mars.	1	11	1 A	3 22	M	7 40	M						
14	W	Cam.&Ox. Tm. b.	5 9	12	0 17	6 52	5 1	Aftern.	8 9	1	2 7	2 25	11 23	—			6	10 44		3 4		7 21						
15	Th	Length of day at London 13h 47m	5 7	12	0 26	6 54	5 20	1 19	9 41	2	2 45	3 3	11 41	0 1			11	10 25		2 45		7 1						
16	F	Length of day at Edinburgh 14h 14m	5 5	11 59	47	6 56	5 45	2 19	11 12	3	3 23	3 42	0 20	0 41			16	10 6		2 24		6 39						
17	S	Length of day at Dublin 14h 6m	5 3	11 59	33	6 57	6 23	3 23	Morn.	4	4 3	4 23	1 1	1 24			21	9 45		2 3		6 18						
18	S	2ND S. aft. EAST.	5 1	11 59	19	6 59	7 17	4 28	0 32	5	4 46	5 7	1 45	2 12	26	9 20		1 39		5 54								
19	M	Alphege	4 59	11 59	57	1	8 29	5 30	1 33	6	5 34	6 0	2 38	3 6	Jupiter.	1	6 52	M	2 23	A	9 53	A						
20	Tu	Sunrises at Edinburgh 4h 44m	4 57	11 58	52	7 3	9 53	6 29	2 16	7	6 28	6 58	3 36	4 13			6	6 36		2 8		9 40						
21	W	Day breaks at 2h 37m	4 53	11 58	39	7 4	11 18	7 22	2 44	8	7 35	8 17	4 55	5 44			11	6 17		1 52		9 27						
22	Th	Twilight ends at 9h 25m	4 52	11 58	27	6	Aftern.	8 10	3 4	9	6 50	6 28	7 10				16	6 1		1 37		9 14						
23	F	St. George	4 50	11 58	15	7 2	3	8 55	3 18	10	10 32	11 11	7 49	8 22			21	5 44		1 22		8 59						
24	S	[St. Mark	4 48	11 58	37	9 3	19	9 38	3 31	11	11 44	—	8 48	9 13	26	5 28		1 7		8 47								
25	S	3RD S. aft. EAST.	4 46	11 57	52	7 11	4 35	10 20	3 41	12	0 10	0 35	9 33	9 53	Saturn.	1	10 48		6 54		3 4	M						
26	M	Sun rises at Dublin 4h 36m	4 44	11 57	42	7 12	5 50	11 3	3 52	13	0 55	1 15	10 13	10 30			6	10 29		6 35		2 44						
27	Tu	Sun sets at Dublin 7h 20m	4 42	11 57	32	7 14	7 5	11 46	4 4	14	1 35	1 52	10 47	11 5			11	10 9		6 16		2 25						
28	W	Length of day at London 14h 36m	4 40	11 57	22	7 16	8 20	Morn.	4 17	15	2 9	2 27	11 22	11 39			16	9 52		5 57		2 6						
29	Th	Day breaks at 2h 14m	4 38	11 57	13	7 17	9 35	0 32	4 35	16	2 44	3 1	11 54	—			21	9 33		5 33		1 48						
30	F	Twilight ends at 9h 48m	4 36	11 57	57	19	10 45	1 20	4 58	17	3 16	3 33	0 11	0 26	26	5 37	M	1 46		9 32								



THE GRAND ALTAR OF THE CATHEDRAL OF SEVILLE. PAINTED BY DAVID ROBERTS, R.A.—FROM THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."



CHINESE GIRLS. SKETCHED AT HONG-KONG.—FROM THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."

THE above Engraving and accompanying description is by the Special Artist and Correspondent of the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS in China. He says:—

"I have found the Celestials very intelligent, wonderfully ingenious, and altogether different from what I had been told. The Chinese girls are most interesting in their appearance. The one sitting down is in full walking dress of light blue silk, very thick, and in folds something like that stiff brocade we see in ancient pictures; black trousers, one pair over the other; silk handkerchief on the head, not tied, but put on the way you see; it is generally blue or pink plaid pattern; very thick-soled shoes; and, when out, an English umbrella completes the walking dress. In doors they take off the exterior silk tunic, and wear one like the girl behind, either white or blue, or even black—but white looks best;

always earrings, one blue stone and the other gold; bracelets of blue stones. The small boys have the brightest look you can conceive, and, so far from being ugly, they are most pleasant-looking little fellows. Their dress is a long way in advance of the dress of our juveniles; it is a white silk or other stuff blouse; no shirt in summer, and the neck bare; loose trousers tied round the knee with a satin band, and covering a stocking that descends into the most sensible of all shoes. The stocking prevents any insects getting up the legs; the shoe can hurt no corns, and, not being of leather, is not too hot; the loose trousers are delightfully cool; the clean-shaved head is decidedly neat, and the neatly-plaited pigtail is quite natty. Everybody here acknowledges the superiority of this dress. The coolies are much more loosely dressed, and merely wear the shirt and trousers."

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

APRIL.

THE SUN is north of the Equator and in the sign of Aries until 9h. 40m. A.M. of the 20th, when it passes into that of Taurus.

The Moon is near Mars on the 2nd, near Venus on the 14th, near Mercury, Jupiter, and Uranus on the 15th, near Saturn on the 19th, and again near Mars on the 29th.

Last Quarter occurs at 43 minutes past	1 on the afternoon of the 6th.
New Moon " 15 "	11 on the night of the 13th.
First Quarter " 26 "	2 on the afternoon of the 20th.
Full Moon " 56 "	2 on the morning of the 28th.

The Moon is most distant from the Earth on the 4th, and nearest to it on the 16th.

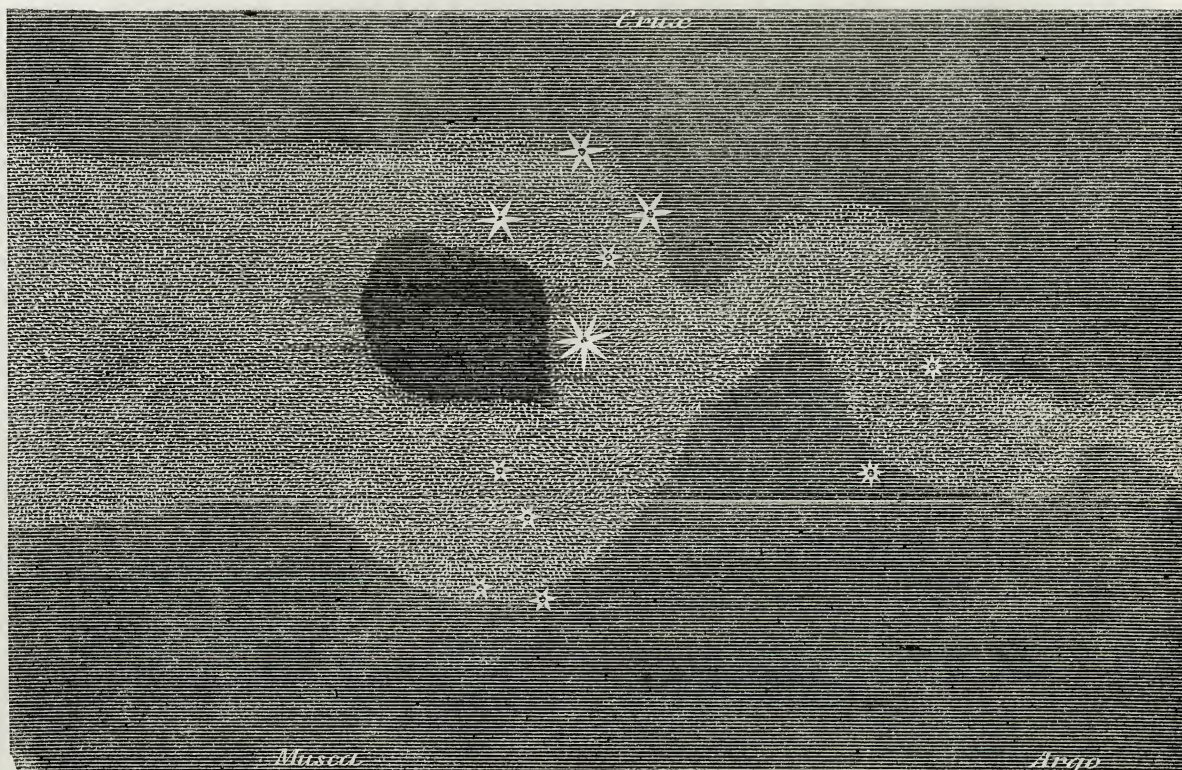
MERCURY is favourably situated for viewing during this month, and arrives at its greatest easterly elongation on the 20th, when it sets at nine o'clock in the evening. It is situated near Venus on the night of the 2nd, near the Moon on the 15th, near Jupiter on the 25th, and again near Venus on the night of the 29th. It is in the constellation of Pisces at the beginning, and in that of Taurus at the end, of the month.

VENUS sets at about an hour and a half after the Sun at the end of April, and is becoming more favourably situated for observation, although the disc still continues of small dimensions, and nearly round. It is near

TIME OF SOUTHING OF THE PRINCIPAL STARS WHICH PASS THE MERIDIAN BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 15TH OF APRIL.

Alpha Hydra ..	7h. 46m. P.M.	Beta Leonis ..	10h. 7m. P.M.
Regulus ..	8 26 "	Gamma Ursæ Majoris	10 11 "
Gamma Leonis ..	8 37 "	Beta Corvi ..	10 52 "
Alpha Ursæ Majoris	9 20 "	Gamma Virginis ..	10 59 "
Delta Leonis ..	9 32 "	Spica ..	11 43 "

Of all the objects in the heavens visible to the naked eye, the bright and well-defined zone of the MILKY WAY, connected, as it doubtless is, with the structure of the starry universe around, most excites our astonishment, and has most engaged the attention of those who have endeavoured to fathom the form and dimensions of that immense assemblage of stars, of which our Sun, and the stars spangled in all directions over the sky, forms but a part. If myriads of stars were arranged in a vast stratum, of which the Sun was placed near the centre, the appearance, to a spectator placed near the latter point, would be something similar to that which the Milky Way presents to view, from the effect of foreshortening alone; and hence Herschel came to the conclusion from his observations that the cluster to which our Sun belongs was of a lenticular shape, being $5\frac{1}{2}$ times greater in breadth than in thickness. Although generally distinct and well-defined, the Milky Way is irregular in its course and breadth; and, in that portion of it visible in our latitudes during the



THE "COAL-SACK" AND "SOUTHERN CROSS."

Mercury on the evening of the 2nd, near the Moon on the 14th, and near Jupiter and Mercury on the 29th. It is in the constellation of Pisces at the beginning, and in that of Taurus at the end, of the month.

MARS continues to increase in brightness, but is still unfavourably situated for viewing, as even when on the meridian at London its altitude above the horizon is only $18\frac{1}{2}$ degrees. On the 1st of the month it rises at 11 P.M., and on the 30th at 9 P.M., in the S.E. On April 2 and 29 it is situated near the Moon, a little to the north of the latter. It continues in the constellation of Scorpio throughout April.

JUPITER is now becoming fainter, and sets about an hour after the Sun at the end of the month. The satellites are invisible after the 22nd. It is in the constellation of Aries at the beginning of the month, and in that of Taurus at the end. It is near the Moon on the evening of the 15th, near Mercury on the 25th, and close to Venus on the 29th.

SATURN may now be considered as the evening star, passing the meridian at 6h. 54m. P.M. on April 1, and at 5h. 5m. P.M. of April 30, and remaining visible until 3h. A.M. at the former time, and until 1h. 15m. A.M. on the latter occasion. It is near the Moon on the night of the 19th. It is situated in the constellation of Gemini during the month.

At midnight P.M. of the middle of April the constellations of Cassiopeia, Cepheus, Draco, and Ursa Major are situated to the N. of the zenith; and those of Canes Venatici, Coma Berenices, Boötes, Virgo, and Corvus to the S. of the zenith. In the S.W. the constellation of Hydra and a few of the stars of Canis Minor are situated, and in the W. the constellations of Gemini, Cancer, and Leo. In the N.W. are those of Lynx, Auriga, and Camelopardalus. In the E. are the constellations of Corona Borealis, Hercules, and Aquila; in the S.E. those of Serpens, Ophiuchus, and Libra; and in the N.E. are those of Draco, Lyra, Cygnus, and Lacerta.

summer months, it branches off into two distinct streams. This irregularity was surmised by Herschel to be due to a separation and development of it into different and distinct clusters, and he pointed out many portions of it in which this development was clearly visible. One of the most remarkable of the irregularities of the Milky Way and the most conspicuous feature of the southern heavens, and which is best seen during the present month, is the pear-shaped vacuity, whose intense darkness, situated as it is within, and contrasted with, one of the brightest parts of the Galactic Zone, has been repeatedly described by travellers, and is well known by the designation of the "Coal-sack." The track of the Milky Way in this part of the sky is remarkably devious, and the brightness very irregular. The continuity of its light is completely broken off near this portion; but on its recurrence its brightness is very intense at the narrowest part, where the breadth does not exceed five degrees. It suddenly expands after this to a very considerable breadth, taking in the southern part of the Cross and the northern part of Musca. Although to the naked eye, from the effect of contrast, the "Coal-sack" appears perfectly black, yet, from the observations of Sir J. Herschel, it appears to be well filled with stars, there being one cluster and several hundred others visible. But, notwithstanding this, the richness of the surrounding part is so marked that any degree of comparative brilliancy is altogether lost sight of. The greatest breadth of the "Coal-sack" is five degrees, and the greatest length eight degrees.

Equally conspicuous with the "Coal-sack," and situated close to it, is the well-known Southern Cross, a constellation introduced by Royer, in 1679, consisting of one star of the first and three of the second magnitude, the whole forming a well-defined cross, and rivaling in the brightness and arrangement of its stars the compact and well-known groups of the Plough, the belt of Orion, and Cassiopeia's Chair, in the northern heavens.

MAY

1858



MAY THIRTY-ONE DAYS.

Day of Month	Day of Week	ANNIVERSARIES, FESTIVALS, REMARKABLE EVENTS.	SUN.				MOON.				HIGH WATER AT				PLANETS.																				
			Rises at Lon- don.		SETS at Lon- don.		Rises at London. Morn.		SOUTH. Morn.		SETS at London. Morn.		AGE.		LONDON BRIDGE.		LIVERPOOL DOCKS.		Day of M	Rise.	South.	Set.													
			H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.																	
			Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.																	
1	S	<i>S. Phil. & S. Jas.</i>	4	35	11	56	57	7	20	11	46	2	10	5	31	18	3	48	4	3	0	41	0	59	Mercury.	1	4	51	M	0	53	A	8	55	A
2	S	<i>4th S. aft. EAST.</i>	4	33	11	56	49	7	22	Morn.	3	1	6	15	19	4	21	4	37	1	15	1	32	6		4	37	0	29	8	20				
3	M	<i>[Invent. of Cross]</i>	4	31	11	56	42	7	24	0	36	3	53	7	12	20	4	54	5	11	1	49	2	8		11	4	21	0	1	7	40			
4	Tu	Day breaks at 1h 54m	4	29	11	56	36	7	26	1	13	4	43	8	19	21	5	30	5	50	2	28	2	51		16	4	1	11	31	7	0			
5	W	Twilight ends at 10h 6m	4	27	11	56	30	7	27	1	40	5	32	9	33	22	6	13	6	39	3	17	3	43	21	3	47	11	5	6	22				
6	Th	<i>St. J. Evangelist</i>	4	25	11	56	25	7	29	2	1	6	19	10	49	24	7	5	7	37	4	15	4	54	26	3	33	10	45	5	58				
7	F	<i>Sun rises at Dublin 4h 15m</i>	4	23	11	56	21	7	30	2	16	7	4	Aftern.	24	8	16	9	0	5	38	6	14	Venus.	6	5	10	1	0	8	51				
8	S	<i>Sun sets at Dublin 7h 39m</i>	4	22	11	56	17	7	32	2	29	7	48	1	24	25	9	36	10	11	6	49	7		23	11	5	3	1	12	9	22			
9	S	ROGATION SUN.	4	20	11	56	13	7	33	2	40	8	33	2	43	26	10	45	11	16	7	54	8		20	16	5	4	1	25	9	47			
10	M	Sun rises at Edinburgh 3h 59m	4	19	11	56	11	7	35	2	52	9	19	4	6	27	11	42	—	8	44	9	9		6	26	5	8	1	32	9	56			
11	Tu	Sun sets at Edinburgh 7h 56m	4	17	11	56	8	7	36	3	5	10	8	5	34	28	0	6	0	28	9	26	9	49	Mars.	6	8	30	1	50	5	30	M		
12	W	Length of day at London 15h 23m	4	15	11	56	7	7	38	3	20	11	2	7	7	29	0	48	1	11	10	11	10	34		11	8	2	0	23	4	39			
13	Th	<i>Ascen. d. Hil. T.</i>	4	13	11	56	6	7	39	3	44	Aftern.	8	41	30	1	33	1	56	10	54	11	17	Jupiter.		6	8	30	1	50	5	4			
14	F	Day breaks at 1h 12m	4	12	11	56	5	7	41	4	16	1	5	10	9	1	2	16	2	39	11	39	—			16	7	33	11	51	A	4	12		
15	S	Twilight ends at 10h 48m	4	11	11	56	5	7	42	5	3	2	12	11	21	2	3	1	3	25	0	3	0		26	21	7	5	11	24	3	47			
16	S	<i>Sun. aft. Ascen. d.</i>	4	9	11	56	6	7	44	6	11	3	19	Morn.	3	3	48	4	11	0	49	1	15		26	6	38	10	57	3	22				
17	M		4	8	11	56	7	7	45	7	35	4	20	0	12	4	4	37	5	4	1	42	2	9	Saturn.	1	5	11	M	0	52	8	32	A	
18	Tu	Sun rises at Dublin 3h 57h	4	6	11	56	9	7	47	9	3	5	17	0	46	5	5	31	5	58	2	36	3	4		6	4	54	0	37	8	21			
19	W	Sun sets at Dublin 7h 58m	4	5	11	56	11	7	48	10	29	6	8	1	9	10	6	26	7	0	3	38	4	10		11	4	38	0	22	8	5			
20	Th	Sun rises at Edinburgh 3h 41m	4	4	11	56	14	7	50	11	51	6	54	1	25	7	7	32	8	8	4	46	5	25		16	4	21	0	7	7	53			
21	F	Sun sets at Edinburgh 8h 15m	4	2	11	56	17	7	51	Aftern.	7	38	1	38	8	8	8	47	9	23	6	1	6	33	26	3	49	11	38	7	42				
22	S	Trinity Term beg.	4	1	11	56	21	7	52	2	25	8	20	1	50	9	9	55	10	25	7	3	7	34	Uranus.	1	8	56	5	1	A	1	11	M	
23	S	WHIT SUNDAY	4	0	11	56	26	7	54	3	39	9	2	2	0	10	10	56	11	26	8	4	8	31		6	8	39	4	43	0	51			
24	M	<i>Q. Vict. b., 1819</i>	3	59	11	56	31	7	55	6	4	5	9	44	2	12	11	53	—	8	55	9	19	11		8	20	4	25	0	33				
25	Tu	No real night.	3	58	11	56	36	7	56	6	8	10	29	2	25	12	0	17	0	41	9	39	10	0		16	8	4	4	7	0	14			
26	W	<i>Oxf. Term beg.</i>	3	57	11	56	42	7	58	7	23	11	16	2	41	13	1	1	22	10	20	10	40	21	7	46	3	49	11	53	A				
27	Th	<i>Cam. Term div.</i>	3	56	11	56	48	7	59	8	34	Morn.	3	3	14	1	2	2	10	58	11	16	Uranus.	1	5	17	1	7	8	57					
28	F	Length of day at London 16h 6h	3	54	11	56	55	8	0	9	39	0	5	3	31	15	2	20	2	38	11	33		11	49	6	4	59	0	49	8	39			
29	S	Length of day at Dublin 16h 29m	3	53	11	57	28	1	10	32	0	56	4	12	16	2	55	3	11	—	0	9		11	4	39	11	4	39	0	30	8	21		
30	S	TRINITY SUND.	3	52	11	57	10	8	3	11	13	1	48	5	6	17	3	31	3	45	0	23		0	41	16	4	22	0	12	8	3			
31	M	Length of day at Edinburgh 17h 3m	3	51	11	57	18	8	4	11	42	2	38	6	9	18	4	3	4	23	1	1	1	16	21	4	3	11	54	M	7	45			
																								26	3	43	11	35	7	27					



THE "MERMAIDEN'S WELL." PAINTED BY J. ABSOLON.
FROM THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."

POPULAR FLOWERS OF THE SEASONS.

MAY AND JUNE.

THE accompanying Engraving of spring and early summer flowers represents the following plants, which are well-known favourites:—The Hawthorn (*Crataegus Oxyacantha*, varieties); the Lily of the Valley (*Convallaria majalis*); the Lilac (*Syringa vulgaris*); the Rose (*Rosa centifolia*); and the Tulip (*Tulipa Gesneriana*). They each rank in the first class of popular flowers.

The Hawthorn, or the "May-tree," as it is often called, has been from time immemorial identified with the floral games of the merry month of May; and its profusion of snowy, agreeably-perfumed blossoms are universally recognised among the beauties of spring. It belongs to the pome-bearing division of the great Rose family, and forms a small tree of very elegant habit, the branches spreading or often pendulous, furnished with long sharp spines, and glossy leaves, broadish, and generally tapered towards the stalk, with the margin deeply slashed into coarse, pointed lobes, and saw-toothed; at the base of the leafstalk is two half-oval, saw-edged small leaves, of the kind called stipules; the leaves are deciduous—that is, they fall off in autumn, the branches continuing leafless until spring. The flowers grow in little flat-headed bunches called corymbs, at the ends of short twigs growing from the branches of the preceding year, and consist of a calyx having a conical tubular base (which grows up together with the ovary into a fleshy mass, forming the exterior of the fruit or pome peculiar to this class of plants), the upper end of the tube being divided into five sharp-pointed segments; a corolla of five petals, roundish, concave, and with a short claw or stalk; a crowd of stamens on longish filaments, and an ovary sunk in the calyx-tube, the two blending to form the pome, or haw—that is, the well-known coral-red fruit, which consists of a fleshy exterior surrounding a variable small number (normally five, but some are usually abortive) of hard bony carpels. The tree is found wild in Great Britain, and in most parts of Europe, but is very extensively cultivated as a hedge-plant, forming the familiar quickest hedges so common by waysides; the common kind also occurring in the form of detached trees in parks and forest wastes; while some of its varieties are highly-prized in shrubberies and pleasure-grounds. Wordsworth has thrown a charm around the ancient thorns, with their stunted members, as sometimes met with on the mountain waste:—

There is a thorn: it looks so old,
In truth, you'd find it hard to say
How it could ever have been young,
It looks so old and gray.
Not higher than a two-years' child,
It stands erect, this aged thorn;
No leaves it has, no thorny points;
It is a mass of knotty joints,

It wretches thing forlorn.
It stands erect, and, like a stone,
With lichens it is overgrown.
Like rock or stone, it is o'ergrown
With lichens to the very top,
And hung with heavy tufts of moss,
A melancholy crop.

Hawthorns flourish on any tolerably good soil, provided it is well drained. The more ornamental kinds to be preferred for shrubbery plantations are those which bear pink or scarlet flowers, those with double white or double red flowers, or that called the Glastonbury Thorn, which is remarkable only for blooming unseasonably early, being often in flower in mild winters at Christmas. "The custom of going a-Maying—that is, going out early in the morning of the 1st of May to gather bunches of hawthorn flowers—is of very great antiquity. The Greeks and Romans gathered the May in honour of Flora, to whom the plant was dedicated, and whose festival began on May-day; and the Greeks even of the present time preserve the memorial of this custom by hanging a garland of hawthorn flowers against their doors on the 1st of May. In Britain, Stowe tells us that Henry VIII., with his Queen Katharine, and the lords and ladies of their Court, rode out a-Maying from Greenwich to Shooter's-hill. In decking the maypole with flowers a branch of hawthorn was formerly always put at the top; but since the alteration of the style in 1752—May-day occurring eleven days earlier—the hawthorn is seldom in blossom on that day, except in the southern parts of England."—*Loudon*. The flowers have a peculiar and powerful fragrance, highly agreeable to many persons. They are regarded as an emblem of hope, and were carried by the girls in the wedding processions of the ancient Greeks, and laid on the altar of Hymen, which was lighted with torches made of the wood. We must not omit to mention that it is not to the flowers only of this tree that its ornamental properties are owing. When loaded with their coral berries, either in autumn or winter, the trees have a very rich and pleasing effect.

Few of our wild flowers are held in more esteem than the Lily of the Valley. No flower of May has a more exquisite fragrance or more delicate form:—

Sweet flower o' the valley, wif' blossoms of snow,
And green leaves that turn the emerald blast frae their stems;
Bright emblem o' innocence, thy beauties I lo'e
Above the King's coronet circled wi' gems!
There's nae finsel abint thee to make thee mair bricht,
Sweet lily; thy loveliness a' is thine ain;
And thy bonny bells, danglin' sae pure and sae light,
Proclaim thee the fairest o' Flora's bricht train.

This plant has no very near relationship to the true lilies, although belonging to the Lily family. It is a native plant, growing in woods and groves, whence it has been transferred to our gardens, in which it is so highly esteemed that the roots are potted and subjected to artificial heat, to supply the luxurious with their charming flowers long before they would be produced naturally. The more ruralised and rusticated shady parts of the garden are those which best suit this plant, and in which it seems most appropriately placed. Under ground the lily of the valley has a perennial, branching, prostrate, stem, producing roots at intervals, the tip of all the branches forming a tapered bud, whence the leaves and flowers arise; these stems naturally grow in a densely-matted condition, so that the plants form thick tufts. The leaves—of which two or three come from each bud—are from four to six inches high, dark green, streaked with parallel veins, their stalks overlapping each other. The flowers grow in raceme on a slender stalk nearly as long as the leaves, each flower (a perianth, with all the six divisions similar) forming a globosely bell-shaped cup, hanging pendent by a little stalk; this cup is notched at the margin into six sharp-pointed turned-back teeth, which indicate the six divisions of which it is composed, and which are united by their edges into one piece; these are the pure white delightfully fragrant flowers. Six short stamens will be found in the interior, joined to the base of the cup. The ovary grows into a round scarlet berry. These plants will grow in almost any soil, but they prefer that which is sandy and moderately moist; they also prefer shade, and a northern aspect is decidedly preferable. For shady shrubbery walks, or north borders, they are specially adapted. They flower better when the soil is not too rich.

The Lilac, which gives its name to a recognised pale purplish-red colour, like that borne by the flowers of some of the common kinds, is a very favourite garden shrub. Several kinds are to be met with; they form compact-growing erect shrubs, increasing freely by suckers (young stems growing up from the root), and adding much to the gaiety of gardens and shrubberies during the month of May. The branches are stoutish, and bear smooth, heart-shaped, ovate, sharp-pointed leaves, which stand in twos at intervals along the stem, one opposite the other, thus being an example of what is called an opposite-leaved plant. The flowers grow from the buds of the last year's shoots, some of the upper buds usually producing the pyramidal clusters of blossoms, some being developed into new leafy shoots, augmenting the size of the tree. The flowers of the original lilac, which appears to be a native of Persia, and of the eastern part of Europe, is of a pale purple, but there are several shades of colour, as well as white. These flowers consist of a small four-toothed calyx, and a funnel-shaped corolla, divided into a four-parted limb; there are but two stamens; and the whole is succeeded by compressed ovate capsules. This shrub was introduced about the end of the sixteenth century, and has become quite common in shrubberies, being increased freely by means of the suckers, or by layering. It requires no particular care in cultivation, and will grow in any garden soil, and is hence a useful shrub for town gardens, where its flowers prove particularly welcome. The plant, being common, is adapted for planting near to a boundary fence which it is desired to hide in some measure by means of vegetation, being used either alone or in company with other plants. It is of deciduous habit, casting off all its leaves in autumn. The lilac is perfectly hardy, being uninjured by the severest winters. It belongs to the family of Olivaceae.

The Rose, in any of its many forms pre-eminently beautiful, is universally admitted to be the queen of flowers. In the mythology of the ancients it was dedicated to Aurora as an emblem of youth, from its freshness and reviving fragrance; to Venus as an emblem of love and beauty, from the elegance of its flowers; and to Cupid as an emblem of fugacity and danger, from the fleeting nature of its charms and the wounds inflicted by its thorns. The rose was, it is said, given by Cupid to Harpocrates, the god of silence, as a bribe to prevent him from betraying the amours of Venus, and it became adopted as the emblem of silence; hence it was, no doubt, that the rose was frequently sculptured or suspended from the ceilings of drinking and feasting rooms, as a warning to guests that what was said in moments of conviviality should not be repeated; so that that which was intended to be kept secret was said to be told "under the rose." In the East the rose has ever been a favourite with the poets. In the history of our own country white and red roses have been made the badges of a deadly feud between the rival Royal houses. It has been observed that the roses engraved on seals always appear very double, as if copied from the form of *R. centifolia*, while those employed in Gothic architecture are comparatively flat, with large open petals, like *R. gallica*. Roses are now so numerous and so varied that no general description can convey any idea of their character. Suffice it they are shrubs, usually with prickly stems, having pinnate leaves (that is, leaves made up of distinct leaflets set along a common axis, thus feather-like), and at the base of the leafstalk is a leafy expansion on each side, which really consists of a pair of stipules joined to the stalk by one of their edges. In the common dog-rose of our hedges the flowers consist of a calyx contracted at the mouth, tubular, which is eventually converted into a fleshy fruit, terminating in five pinnate sepals; a corolla of five inversely heart-shaped petals, forming a roundish saucer-shaped flower; and within this a ring of densely-packed stamens surrounding the aperture at the apex of the fruit, on the inner surface of which the numerous carpels are disposed. Single roses have flowers more or less exactly of this character. They are the types of the Rose family. The double garden-roses, of which the old-fashioned double Provence rose is represented in the Engraving, differ in the conversion of the ring of stamens into a multitude of petals, forming much larger flowers crowded with the petals, and in a general incapacity, proportioned to the degree of the doubleness, to produce seed. The garden roses of the present day are pre-eminently beautiful, and so varied in size, colour, and habit of growth, as to be adapted for every possible situation in the garden. Roses are applied to various uses besides that of decorating our gardens. In some countries—Syria, Egypt, and India, for example—they are largely cultivated for making the delicious perfume known as attar of roses. In this country they are largely grown for the purpose of distilling rose-water, or for drying as a perfume. Thus there are derived from these plants the dried flower-leaves, rose-water, vinegar of roses, spirit of roses, conserve of roses, honey of roses, oil of roses, and attar (or otto or essence) of roses; the latter being obtained in very small quantities, and bearing a very high price. The medicinal use of roses is not very extensive; they, however, possess laxative properties.

If the rose is the sweetest, the Tulip is probably the most flauntingly gay, of the floral race. This flower has from time immemorial been prized in Eastern lands on account of the splendour of its finely-variegated flowers. In Persia it is said that the presentation of a tulip flower amounted to a declaration of love; the lover intimating thereby that, like the flower, his countenance was all on fire and his heart reduced to a coal. It appears it was introduced to England about the close of the sixteenth century; and has ever since been a favourite flower among florists, a great number of richly-coloured and variegated-marked varieties having been obtained from the somewhat dingy-coloured original. These varieties—the only ones that are now prized—are divided into three classes: bybloeems—those with white grounds marked with purple variegations; roses—those with white grounds marked with rose or cherry-coloured variegations; and bizzarres—those with yellow grounds marked with dark-coloured variegations. The few which are plain-coloured are called selfs. The tulip is one of those bulbous plants the possession of choice varieties of which was in former times a mania. It is a bulbous plant, furnished with a small brown-coated bulb, producing an upright stem of one to two feet high, bearing one or two sword-shaped sea-green leaves, and terminating in a single flower, which, when moderately expanded, forms a cup or vase. This flower consists of a perianth of six nearly equal divisions, and, in most cases, is either white or yellow, with beautiful irregular dark or rose-coloured variegations. Within the cup stand six stamens, and a large three-cornered black ovary. The choice kinds require highly-skilled cultivation; but the less rare kinds—equally ornamental—may be had in patches in the open border, if the soil is tolerably good and lightish in texture. The bulbs should be planted at the end of October, or the beginning of November. It belongs to the family of Lilies, and is one of the great monocotyledonous group.



THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

MAY.

THE SUN is north of the Equator and in the sign of Taurus until 9h. 44m. A.M. of the 21st, when it passes into the sign of Gemini.

The MOON is near Mercury on the 12th, near Jupiter and Uranus on the 13th, near Venus on the 14th, near Saturn on the 16th, and near Mars on the 26th.

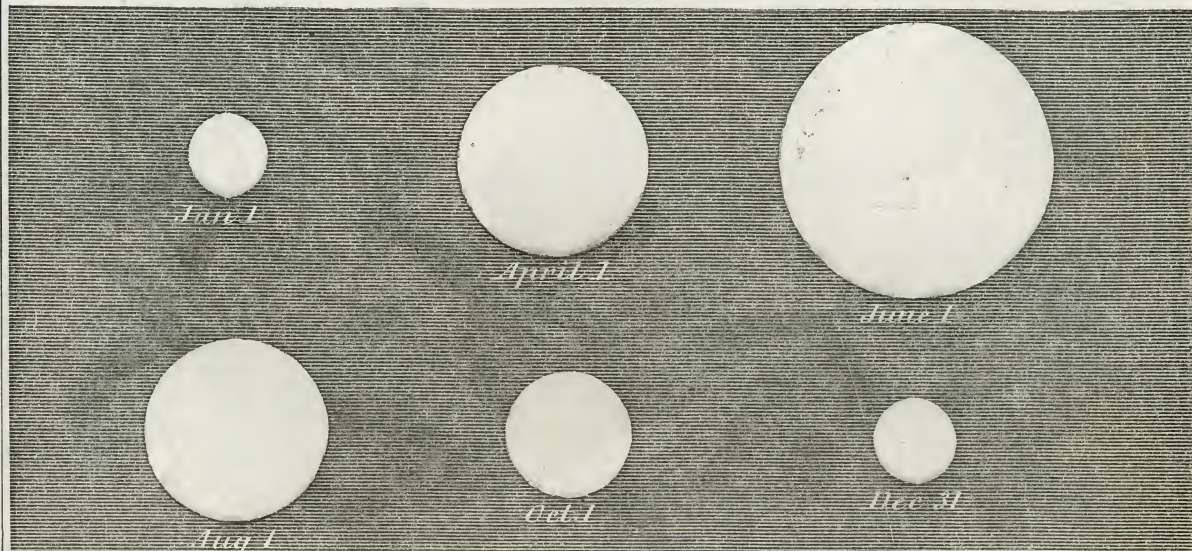
Last Quarter occurs at 40 minutes past 6 on the morning of the 6th.

New Moon " 48 " 7 on the morning of the 13th.

First Quarter " 20 " 10 on the evening of the 19th.

Full Moon " 20 " 6 on the evening of the 27th.

those the constellation of Boötes is situated, which is well known by the red and bright star of Arcturus. In the S.E. the constellation of Aquila will be known by the three stars Alpha, Beta, and Gamma, situated nearly in a straight line; and the smaller constellations of Delphinus, Equuleus, Vulpecula, are situated in the same direction. The constellations of Lyra and Cygnus will be easily recognised; in the former is the brightest star visible in the heavens at present. In the N.E. the constellations of Pegasus, Andromeda, Lacerta, Cepheus, and Cassiopeia, are situated.



RELATIVE DIMENSIONS OF THE DISC OF MARS.

It is at its greatest distance from the Earth on the 1st and 29th, and nearest to the Earth on the 14th. On May 19 the Moon passes over Alpha Leonis, when the star disappears at 9h. 15m. P.M., and reappears at 9h. 46m. P.M.

MERCURY is near Jupiter on the 2nd, in inferior conjunction to the Sun on the 12th, and near the Moon on the 13th. On May 1 it sets at 5h. 55m. P.M. in the N.W., and on May 31 it rises at 3h. 15m. A.M., and is well situated for observation. At the former time it is situated in the constellation of Taurus, and at the latter time in that of Aries. It is stationary on the 1st and 24th.

VENUS sets at 5h. 51m. P.M. on May 1, and 10h. 5m. P.M. of May 31, and is becoming more favourably situated for observation. It is situated in Taurus on the former time, and in Gemini at the latter. On May 2 it is situated near Uranus, and on May 14 near the Moon.

MARS arrives in opposition to the Sun on May 15, and is at its least distance from the Earth on May 24, and shines with great lustre in the southern heavens. It is situated in Scorpio at the beginning, and in Libra towards the end, of the month. It will be situated to the north and west of the principal star in Scorpio, which resembles it considerably in colour and magnitude, and derives its name (Antares) from this circumstance. On May 26 Mars is situated near the Moon.

JUPITER is near the Moon on the 13th, in conjunction with the Sun on the 19th, and near Uranus on the 22nd. It remains invisible during this month. It is situated in the constellation of Taurus. On May 31 it rises 25m. before the Sun.

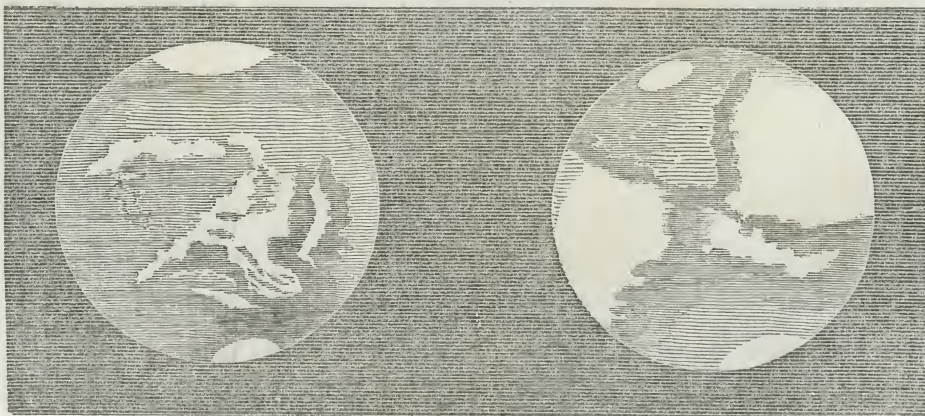
SATURN remains in the constellation of Gemini during this month, and is now an evening star. On May 1 it souths at 5h. 1m. P.M., and on May 31 at 3h. 14m. P.M. On the former occasion it sets at 1h. 11m. A.M., and on the latter at 1h. 17m. P.M. It is near the Moon on the 17th.

At midnight of the 15th of this month the constellations of Draco, Corona Borealis, Boötes, Serpens, Ophiuchus, Libra, and Scorpio are in the S. meridian; whilst N. of the zenith are those of Camelopardalus and Perseus. In the W. horizon the constellation of Leo, and above it those of Leo Minor, Coma Berenices, Canes Venatici, and Ursa Major. In the S.W. the constellations of Corvus and Virgo, and above

TIME OF SOUTHING OF THE PRINCIPAL STARS WHICH PASS THE MERIDIAN BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 15TH OF MAY.

Beta Leonis	8h. 9m. P.M.	Zeta Virginis	9h. 54m. P.M.
Gamma Ursæ Majoris ..	8 13 "	Eta Ursæ Majoris ..	10 9 "
Beta Corvi	8 54 "	Arcturus	10 36 "
Gamma Virginis	9 1 "	Epsilon Boötis	11 6 "
Spicæ	9 45 "	Beta Libræ	11 36 "

None of the other planets present such a difference in brightness as Mars; his distance from the Sun and Earth varying at each conjunction or opposition. At an interval of every fifteen years, or more accurately at every seventy-nine years, it approaches within its shortest distance from the Earth and Sun. On Aug. 17, 1845, the opposition took place only thirteen days after the period of its shortest distance from the Sun, on which occasion it was very brilliant. During the present year it arrives in opposition and will attain its greatest brightness in May, but its low position in Europe will prevent it from being seen to such advantage as in more southerly latitudes. The relative sizes of its disc throughout the year to a spectator on the Earth (given in the diagram) will show to what the increase and diminution of his brilliancy are attributable, and how considerably it changes in magnitude. We add two figures of its appearance during the last opposition of 1856, the first as it was seen by M. Secchi in the great refractor of Merz, the second as seen with the Northumberland telescope at Cambridge. On both occasions the snow spots at the north and south zones were visible; but M. Secchi noticed that the spots were not diametrically opposite to each other (as will be seen in the diagram); and he has observed them at times when they were even more eccentric than on the present occasion. To what influences of the climate of Mars this is due, or what to assimilate it to in the condition of the Earth's atmosphere, would be to push conjecture too far. But there is every reason to believe that these brilliant white spots are really masses of snow; for it has been accurately determined that,



MARS, APRIL 2, 1856.

APRIL 23, 1856.

when this part of the planet is exposed to the rays of the Sun, those white spots gradually lessen, and finally disappear; whilst when hidden from the Sun they increase in magnitude and lustre. The darker spots on Mars are constant, and may be considered as portions of his surface.

JOURNAL

1858



JUNE THIRTY DAYS.

Day of Month.	Day of Week.	ANNIVERSARIES, FESTIVALS, REMARKABLE EVENTS.	SUN.						MOON.						HIGH WATER AT				PLANETS.			
			Rises at London.		SOUTH.		Sets at London.		Rises at London.		SOUTH.		Sets at London.		LONDON BRIDGE.		LIVERPOOL DOCKS.		Day of M.	Rise.		Set.
			H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.		H. M.	H. M.	H. M.
1	Tu	<i>Nicomede</i>	3 51	11 57	27 8	5	—	3 28	7 20	19	4 38	4 57	1 35	1 54	4 38	4 57	1 35	1 54	Mercury.	1 3 14 M	10 29 M	5 45 A
2	W	Length of day at London 16h 16m	3 50	11 57	36 8	6	0 4	4 15	8 34	20	5 16	5 36	2 14	2 38	5 16	5 36	2 14	2 38		3 4	10 24	5 44
3	Th	<i>Corpus Christi</i>	3 49	11 57	46 8	7	0 21	4 59	9 50	21	6 0	6 22	3 0	3 24	6 0	6 22	3 0	3 24		2 53	10 24	5 56
4	F		3 49	11 57	55 8	8	0 34	5 43	11 6	22	6 46	7 10	3 48	4 17	6 46	7 10	3 48	4 17		2 50	10 30	6 13
5	S	<i>Boniface</i>	3 48	11 58	6 8	9	0 46	6 26	Aftern.	11 6	7 39	8 8	4 46	5 20	6 46	7 10	3 48	4 17		2 46	10 43	6 42
6	S	1st S. aft. TRIN.	3 47	11 58	16 8	10	0 57	7 10	1 41	24	8 42	9 20	5 58	6 26	8 42	9 20	5 58	6 26	Venus.	2 53	11 1	7 10
7	M	Sun rises at Dublin 3h 33m	3 47	11 58	27 8	11	1 10	7 56	3 32	25	9 48	10 18	6 56	7 23	9 48	10 18	6 56	7 23		5 15	1 41 A	10 8
8	Tu	Sun sets at Dublin 8h 21m	3 46	11 58	38 8	11	1 24	8 47	4 32	26	10 45	11 14	7 52	8 21	10 45	11 14	7 52	8 21		5 22	1 47	10 13
9	W	Sun rises at Edinburgh 3h 17m	3 46	11 58	50 8	12	1 43	9 42	6 4	27	11 43	—	8 40	9 17	11 43	—	8 40	9 17		5 33	1 54	10 16
10	Th	Sun sets at Edinburgh 8h 41m	3 45	11 59	2 8	13	2 9	10 43	7 36	28	0 11	0 39	9 43	10 11	0 11	0 39	9 43	10 11		5 45	2 1	10 17
11	F	<i>St. Barnabas</i>	3 45	11 59	14 8	14	2 49	11 50	8 58	29	1 5	1 33	10 36	11 2	1 5	1 33	10 36	11 2	Mars.	6 12	2 12	10 12
12	S	Trinity Term ends	3 45	11 59	26 8	14	3 48	Aftern.	10 0	1	1 58	2 24	11 28	11 54	1 58	2 24	11 28	11 54		6 4 A	10 25	2 51 M
13	S	2nd S. aft. TRIN.	3 44	11 59	38 8	15	5 6	2 4	10 42	2	2 50	3 16	—	0 20	2 50	3 16	—	0 20		6 5 38	10 0	2 26
14	M	Length of day at London 16h 32m	3 44	11 59	51 8	16	6 37	3 5	11 11	3	3 42	4 8	0 46	1 13	3 42	4 8	0 46	1 13		5 13	9 36	2 3
15	Tu	Length of day at Dublin 16h 54m	3 44	12 0	4 8	16	8 8	4 0	11 30	4	4 35	4 59	1 37	2 4	4 35	4 59	1 37	2 4		4 51	9 14	1 40
16	W	Length of day at Edinburgh 17h 58m	3 44	12 0	17 8	16	9 35	4 50	11 45	5	5 26	5 50	2 28	2 54	5 26	5 50	2 28	2 54	Jupiter.	4 30	8 53	1 19
17	Th	<i>St. Alban</i>	3 44	12 0	29 8	17	10 56	5 35	11 56	6	6 16	6 43	3 21	3 46	6 16	6 43	3 21	3 46		4 12	8 33	0 58
18	F	No real night	3 44	12 0	42 8	17	Aftern.	6 18	Morn.	7	7 8	7 37	4 15	4 44	7 8	7 37	4 15	4 44		3 28	11 20 M	7 11 A
19	S	[Acc. of Q. Viet	3 44	12 0	55 8	18	1 29	7 1	0 8	8	8 6	8 35	5 13	5 45	8 6	8 35	5 13	5 45		3 13	11 5	6 58
20	S	3rd S. aft. TRIN.	3 44	12 1	8 8	18	2 44	7 43	0 19	9	9 7	9 35	6 13	6 41	9 7	9 35	6 13	6 41		2 55	10 50	6 45
21	M	Proclamation	3 44	12 1	21 8	18	3 57	8 27	0 32	10	10 3	10 33	7 11	7 42	10 3	10 33	7 11	7 42	Saturn.	2 38	10 35	6 32
22	Tu	Sun rises at Dublin 3h 31m	3 45	12 1	34 8	18	5 12	9 13	0 47	11	11 4	11 35	8 13	8 43	11 4	11 35	8 13	8 43		2 23	10 20	6 17
23	W	Sun sets at Dublin 8h 33m	3 45	12 1	47 8	19	6 24	10 2	1 7	12	—	0 5	9 11	9 34	—	0 5	9 11	9 34		2 6	10 5	6 4
24	Th	<i>St. J. Bap.</i> Midsummer day.	3 45	12 2	0 8	19	7 31	10 52	1 34	13	0 33	0 56	9 56	10 19	0 33	0 56	9 56	10 19		7 9 M	3 11 A	11 13
25	F	Sun rises at Edinburgh 3h 18m	3 46	12 2	13 8	19	8 28	11 43	2 10	14	1 18	1 41	10 39	10 58	1 18	1 41	10 39	10 58		6 52	2 53	10 54
26	S	Sun sets at Edinburgh 8h 47m	3 46	12 2	25 8	19	9 12	Morn.	3 0	15	2 1	2 20	11 19	11 38	3 0	2 20	11 19	11 38	Uranus.	6 35	2 36	10 37
27	S	4th S. aft. TRIN	3 46	12 2	38 8	19	9 46	0 35	4 1	16	2 41	3 0	11 54	—	4 1	3 0	11 54	—		6 20	2 19	10 17
28	M	Q. Vic. cr., 1838	3 47	12 2	50 8	19	10 9	1 25	5 11	17	3 16	3 35	0 13	0 30	3 16	3 35	0 13	0 30		6 3	2 2	10 1
29	Tu	<i>St. Peter</i>	3 47	12 3	2 8	19	10 27	2 12	6 24	18	3 52	4 9	0 47	1 5	3 52	4 9	0 47	1 5		5 47	1 45	9 44
30	W	Length of day at London 16h 31m	3 47	12 3	14 8	18	10 41	2 58	7 39	19	4 27	4 45	1 23	1 39	4 27	4 45	1 23	1 39		2 6	9 59	5 52



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THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

JUNE.

THE SUN is in the sign of Gemini until May 21, at 9h. 44m. A.M., when it passes into that of Cancer, and the summer quarter commences.

THE MOON is near Mercury on the 9th, near Uranus and Jupiter on the 10th, near Venus and Saturn on the 13th, and near Mars on the 21st. It is nearest the Earth on the 11th, and most distant on the 25th.

Last Quarter occurs at 21 minutes past 8 on the evening of the 4th.
New Moon " 46 " 2 on the afternoon of the 11th.
First Quarter " 14 " 8 on the morning of the 18th.
Full Moon " 13 " 9 on the morning of the 26th.

MERCURY is in the constellations of Aries on the first few days of the month, and in that of Taurus during the remainder. On June 1 it rises 37 minutes before the Sun, and on June 30 about 45 minutes before; but daylight and twilight will prevent it from being seen with the naked eye. It is at its greatest westerly elongation on June 7, is near the Moon on the 9th, near Uranus on the 13th, near Epsilon Tauri on the morning of the 17th, and close to Jupiter at the same time.

of the zenith are those of Serpens, Boötes, and Corona Borealis. In the N.W. are Leo Minor, Ursa Major, and Canes Venatici. In the E. Pegasus; and approaching the zenith and meridian are those of Lyra and Cygnus. In the S.E. are the constellations of Aquila, Capricornus, Sagittarius, and Aquarius; and in the N.E. those of Andromeda, Cassiopeia, Cepheus, and Perseus.

TIME OF SOUTHING OF THE PRINCIPAL STARS WHICH PASS THE MERIDIAN BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 15TH OF JUNE.			
Eta Boötis ..	8h. 13m. P.M.	Alpha Coronæ Borealis	9h. 54m. P.M.
Arcturus ..	8 34 "	Alpha Serpentis ..	10 2 "
Epsilon Boötis ..	9 4 "	Beta Scorpii ..	10 22 "
Alpha Libræ ..	9 8 "	Alpha Scorpii ..	10 45 "
Beta Libræ ..	9 34 "	Alpha Herculis ..	11 32 "

The constellation of HERCULES, which now passes the meridian about midnight, is rich in various objects of interest to the telescopic observer, and is otherwise interesting, as it has been determined, from the proper motion of various stars, that it is to a point in this part of the heavens that the Sun, with its vast cortège of attendant planets, is pro-



CONSTELLATION AND CLUSTER OF HERCULES.

VENUS is near the Moon on the 13th, and near Saturn on the 20th. It presents nearly the same phase as the Moon when about thirteen days old. On June 1 it sets at 10h. 8m. P.M. in the N.W.; and on June 30, at the same time, nearer the W. It is situated in the constellation of Gemini on June 1, and in that of Cancer at the end of the month. It is near the Moon on the 13th, and near Saturn on the 20th.

MARS is near the Moon on the 22nd, and remains in the constellation of Libra during the month. It souths at 10h. 25m. P.M. of June 1, and at 8h. 18m. P.M. on June 30, and at the latter time sets at about half an hour after midnight in the S.W. It is now becoming fainter, but still shines with great lustre.

JUPITER remains in the constellation of Taurus during this month, and is close to Omega Tauri on the 11th. It becomes visible as a morning star at the latter end of the month; rising at 1h. 50m. past midnight. It is near the Moon on the 10th, and near Mercury on the 17th. The satellites of Jupiter again become visible on the 16th of June.

SATURN, like Mars, may now be perceived at the beginning of the month in the western heavens, and is an evening star, setting at 11h. 13m. P.M. of the 1st in the N.W. It remains in the constellation of Gemini during June. It is near the Moon on the 13th, and near Venus on the 20th. It becomes invisible to unaided vision after this month, and will not be seen until the winter months.

At midnight of the middle of June the constellations of Draco, Hercules, and Ophiuchus are on the meridian; whilst to the N. are the constellations of Camelopardalus, Lynx, and the principal star in Auriga—Capella. The brighter stars now appear to be scattered pretty evenly over the sky, and a fine portion of the Milky Way is visible. In the S.W. horizon the constellations of Libra and Virgo are visible; and to the S.W.

ceeding at a rate of upwards of 100,000,000 miles per annum. The principal star (Alpha), situated in the head of Hercules, and a little to the right of Alpha Ophiuchi, may be recognised by its red colour, is remarkable as being one of the most beautiful double stars in the heavens from the strong contrast of the colours of the components, and at the same time of being a curious variable star, with a period of about sixty days. It varies between the 3 and 3½ magnitude. The smaller star is a deep blue, and pretty bright, being visible in a good telescope by strong daylight, and the distance between the two stars is sufficiently great to enable them to be seen by any instrument of moderate capacity. The star Gamma Herculis is another double star, but the smaller one is very faint, and at a considerable distance from its primary. The stars Zeta and Eta are remarkably close, and difficult to separate: at the commencement of the present century the latter appeared as a single star, the one component completely occulting the other. The two stars which comprise Rho Herculis are easily distinguished, and form a very pretty pair: they are of the fourth and fifth magnitude. The point to which the Sun and its system of planets are continually progressing in the celestial spaces is situated in the line which joins the two stars of the third magnitude, Pi and Mu Herculis, at a quarter of the distance (from Pi), which separates those stars, and the rate of motion is such that it advances 154,000,000 miles annually. As this value is arrived at from a discussion of very minute differences in the places of the stars as determined from year to year, and as these are often contradictory, we are not surprised to find that this quantity may be in error upwards of twenty millions of miles. Struve, however, has calculated that the probability is 400,000 to 1 on the reality of the progression of the Sun towards this point, and that the chances are equal that the rate of motion is comprised between 132,000,000 and 176,000,000 of miles.

JULY

1858



JULY THIRTY-ONE DAYS.

Day of Month.	Day of Week.	ANNIVERSARIES, FESTIVALS, REMARKABLE EVENTS.	SUN.			MOON.					HIGH WATER AT				PLANETS.			
			Rises at Lon- don.	SOUTH.	SETS at Lon- don.	Rises at Lon- don. Aftern.	SOUTH. Morn.	SETS at Lon- don. Morn.	AGE.	LONDON BRIDGE.		LIVERPOOL DOCK.		Day of M.	PLANETS.			
										Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.		Rise.	South.	Set.	
1	Th	Length of day at London 16h 29m	3 49	12 3 26	8 18	10 53	3 41	8 55	20	5 1	5 19	1 57	2 18	Mercury.	1	3 5 M	11 25 M	7 45 A
2	F	Visita. B.V. Mary	3 49	12 3 37	8 18	11 5	4 24	10 9	21	5 40	5 59	2 37	2 58		6	3 30	11 53	8 16
3	S	Dog Days begin	3 50	12 3 48	8 17	11 15	5 6	11 24	22	6 20	6 42	3 20	3 44		11	4 3	0 20 A	8 35
4	S	5TH S. aft. TRIN.	3 51	12 3 59	8 17	11 29	5 50	Aftern. 6	23	7 6	7 29	4 7	4 33		16	4 39	0 44	8 49
5	M	Length of day at Dublin 16h 43m	3 52	12 4 10	8 16	11 44	6 37	2 6	24	7 55	8 23	5 1	5 35		26	5 17	1 4	8 48
6	Tu	Cam. C. & Ox. Act	3 53	12 4 20	8 16	Morn.	7 28	3 35	25	8 57	9 30	6 8	6 38	Venus.	1	6 28	2 17	10 6
7	W	Thomas à Becket	3 53	12 4 30	8 15	0 6	8 25	5 5	26	10 0	10 33	7 11	7 49		6	6 42	2 21	9 59
8	Th	Length of day at Edinburgh 17h 11m	3 54	12 4 40	8 14	0 39	9 28	6 31	27	11 11	11 45	8 23	8 57		11	6 58	2 25	9 50
9	F	Camb. Term ends	3 55	12 4 49	8 14	1 26	10 34	7 43	28	--	0 19	9 29	9 59		16	7 13	2 28	9 41
10	S	Oxf. Term ends	3 56	12 4 58	8 13	2 36	11 42	8 34	29	0 51	1 21	10 27	10 55		21	7 29	2 31	9 31
11	S	6TH S. aft. TRIN.	3 57	12 5 7	8 12	4 2	Aftern. 9	8 1	30	1 49	2 17	11 23	11 49	26	7 44	2 33	9 21	
12	M	Length of day at London 16h 14m	3 58	12 5 15	8 12	5 35	1 46	9 32	1	2 45	3 11	--	0 16	Mars.	1	3 54 A	8 15	0 39 M
13	Tu		3 59	12 5 22	8 11	7 7	2 39	9 49	2	3 38	4 0	0 38	1 3		6	3 38	7 58	0 20
14	W	Sun rises at Dublin 3h 51m	4 0	12 5 29	8 10	8 34	3 28	10 3	3	4 25	4 47	1 25	1 47		11	3 24	7 42	0 4
15	Th	St. Swithin	4 2	12 5 36	8 9	9 55	4 13	10 14	4	5 9	5 32	2 20	2 32		16	3 12	7 27	11 42 A
16	F	Sun rises at Edinburgh 3h 10m	4 3	12 5 42	8 8	11 14	4 57	10 26	5	5 54	6 16	2 54	3 14		21	3 2	7 14	11 35
17	S	Sun sets at Edinburgh 8h 31m	4 4	12 5 48	8 7	Aftern. 11	14	4 57	6	5 54	6 16	2 54	3 14	26	2 53	7 1	11 9	
18	S	7TH S. aft. TRIN.	4 5	12 5 53	8 6	1 46	6 24	10 53	7	6 36	6 58	3 36	3 57	Jupiter.	1	1 50 M	9 50 M	5 50
19	M	Length of day at Dublin 16h 16m	4 6	12 5 57	8 5	3 1	7 10	11 11	8	7 19	7 40	4 18	4 41		6	1 34	9 35	5 36
20	Tu	Margaret	4 8	12 6 18	8 3	4 14	7 58	11 35	9	8 3	8 34	5 12	5 46		11	1 18	9 20	5 23
21	W	Length of day at Edinburgh 16h 30m	4 9	12 6 48	8 2	5 23	8 47	Morn. 11	10	9 8	9 40	6 18	6 54		16	1 1	9 5	5 9
22	Th	Mary Magdalene	4 10	12 6 7	8 1	6 24	9 39	0 8	12	10 16	10 52	7 30	8 6		21	0 44	8 49	4 53
23	F	Sun rises at Dublin 4h 3m	4 12	12 6 9	8 0	7 13	10 30	0 54	13	0 5	0 35	9 38	10 2	26	0 28	8 34	4 40	
24	S	Sun sets at Dublin 8h 6m	4 13	12 6 11	7 58	7 48	11 21	1 51	14	1 0	1 24	10 25	10 46	Saturn.	1	5 30	1 27 A	9 25
25	S	8TH S. aft. TRIN.	4 15	12 6 12	7 57	8 15	Morn. 9	2 59	15	1 47	2 8	11 3	11 23		6	5 14	1 10	9 6
26	M	St. Anne	4 16	12 6 12	7 56	8 34	0 9	4 13	16	2 25	2 45	11 39	11 54		11	4 57	0 53	8 50
27	Tu	Day breaks 1h 2m	4 17	12 6 12	7 54	8 49	0 56	5 29	17	3 1	3 16	--	0 14		16	4 41	0 36	8 31
28	W	Twilight ends 11h 0m	4 19	12 6 11	7 53	9 2	1 40	6 44	18	3 36	3 51	0 29	0 45		21	4 25	0 19	8 14
29	Th	Sun rises at Edinburgh 4h 1m	4 20	12 6 10	7 52	9 12	2 23	8 0	19	4 7	4 23	1 1	1 16	26	4 10	0 2	7 54	
30	F	Sun sets at Edinburgh 5h 7m	4 22	12 6 8	7 50	9 24	3 5	9 15	20	4 38	4 56	1 34	1 51	Uranus.	1	1 27	9 22 M	5 17
31	S		4 23	12 6 5	7 48	9 36	3 49	10 33	21	5 13	5 32	2 20	2 27		6	1 8	9 3	4 58
														11	0 49	8 44	4 39	
														16	0 30	8 26	4 23	
														21	0 12	8 7	4 2	
														26	11 48 A	7 48	3 45	



"THE PRAYER." BY EDWARD FRERE.—FROM THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

POPULAR FLOWERS OF THE SEASONS.

JULY AND AUGUST.

WE are now arrived at the height of summer, and all nature is redolent of flowers. Let us pluck a bouquet. We select the Clove or Carnation (*Dianthus Caryophyllus*), the Stock or Gillyflower (*Mathiola annua*), and the Sweet Pea (*Lathyrus odoratus*) as the most inviting among the beauties of the garden, both on account of their beauty and fragrance; whilst a ramble in the corn-fields, where the reaper has already begun to put in the sickle, reveals the gay and profuse bells of the Bindweed (*Convolvulus arvensis*). To these we must add the stately Hollyhock (*Althæa rosea*).

The Clove or Carnation (very inadequately represented in the opposite Engraving) is altogether a child of culture, the wild original from which it sprang being comparatively insignificant; yet it has yielded under the florist's hand some of our most lovely garden flowers—namely, carnations, which have plain, i.e. smooth-edged, petals, striped lengthwise with one or two colours on white ground; in colour white, rarely yellow, with bold or faint red or purple margins; and clove pinks, a class which includes various colours and kinds, with smooth or saw edged petals, the true clove being large, of a very deep crimson, and having a rich, aromatic fragrance. The original carnation is a native plant found here and there on rocks or on old walls. The name of clove was applied to this plant from the perfume being similar to the spice so called; and old books record that the flower was on this account used to flavour dainty dishes as well as liquors, and that it was thought to possess medicinal properties. Gerard says:—"The conserve made of the clove gilliflower and sugar is exceeding cordiale, and wonderfully abounds measure doth comfort the heart, being eaten now and then." In the reign of Charles II. the Dutch florists had more than a hundred varieties, "all of them fair, large, and double flowers." The plant is a perennial herb, furnished with sea-green grassy foliage, and a stem averaging about two feet high, branching in the upper part, and bearing several flowers. The flowers consist of a stoutish cylindrically-tubular calyx, notched at the end into five pointed teeth, and clasped at the base by a couple of pairs, set crosswise, of short, broad bracts. The original flower has a single row of five petals, which have a narrow claw as long as the calyx-tube, and then a somewhat inversely wedge-shaped portion set at a right angle with the claw, forming that portion of the petal which is exposed to view; there are within these ten stamens and a pair of curly styles, like the feelers of an insect. The garden flowers, instead of having one row only of petals, have no stamens, and a sufficiently-increased number of petals to make a more or less full or double flower as it is called. Carnations are varied in colour: there are bizzarres, which means that there are stripes of two colours on a white ground, usually either scarlet, or purple, or crimson, along with maroon or rose colour, or pink; then there are flakes, which means that the white ground is striped with some one colour. The picotees are white, with an edging of red or purple, sometimes forming only a thread-like line, sometimes forming a heavier mass of colour, more or less dashed inwards. The plant gives a name to the Carnation family. It is increased by layering the grass-like shoots, and requires a rich, light, loamy soil, thoroughly well drained. The flowers are very durable, even when cut and put in water, and hence are valuable for bouquets.

The Gillyflower, or Stock Gillyflower, is another highly fragrant and thoroughly popular flower, belonging to the family of Cruciferous plants, of which the cabbage is a member, and of which one prominent characteristic is that the flowers (the wild or simple forms of course) are formed of four petals set crosswise. The stock is an annual plant, of somewhat shrubby habit, furnished with oblong, blunt, soft, greyish leaves, the branches terminating in racemes of flowers, of which there are different kinds—scarlet (a kind of bright purple rose), purple, and white. The flowers of the double kinds, which only are prized, consist of numerous petals forming a full semiglobular flower; but in all crops raised from seeds a portion of the plants, more or fewer in number, bear only the single four-petalled flowers. The flowers have six stamens, of which two are longer stalked than the rest, and the ovary becomes a long, narrow, linear-kind of pod. There are two or three classes of stock, nearly related, the most commonly grown being the ten weeks' (*Mathiola annua*), a strictly annual kind; but there is a larger kind of a biennial character called the Queen's stock, of a similar branching character, and affording the same variety of colour, and also the Brompton stock, which is a larger, less-branched, upright-spiked sort, of the crimson colour. These plants are all raised from seeds, the ten weeks' being sown in March, or the larger ones in May or June, the former blooming in the course of the same summer, the latter during the succeeding summer. They are all best sown in a kind of store patch, and transplanted three or four in a group where they are wished to flower. They should have a rich soil, and then the double-flowered plants are really beautiful, as well as deliciously fragrant. The seeds required for propagation must be saved from single-flowered plants, those with double flowers not producing seeds; hence, in the ordinary course, it is impossible to tell whether a particular group or plant will produce single or double flowers; and, when it is required to plant double ones only, the plan of potting the plants, retaining them in the pots until the first flowers show, and then selecting and planting those only which show double blossoms, is resorted to. The best mode yet suggested of obtaining a large proportion of double-flowered plants is to select as seed bearers only those single ones which show a tendency towards multiplication of parts by producing five, instead of the usual four, petals, and to preserve the seed only of those flowers which are thus formed, some few of which may be found in most plantations.

The Sweet Pea, emblem of delicate pleasures, was introduced to this country from Sicily, in the beginning of the eighteenth century. The plant is an annual, with a slender climbing stem, the leaves consisting of few distinct leaflets, and furnished with tendrils by which it supports its stems. The flowers grow usually two on a stalk, and are curiously formed, their shape being compared to that of the butterfly, and hence called papilionaceous. They are of various colours; but in the commonest kind (which is frequently the handsomest) the standard is a rich velvety claret colour, the wings bluish-lilac, and the keel faint rose tinted with azure; sometimes the standards are pink or rose colour, and the keel and wing white. The keel consists of the two lower petals, which are folded so as to resemble the keel of a boat, and within which the elongated ovary is inclosed; the wings consist of two other petals which hang over the keel like a penthouse; and the larger upper petal is the standard. Within the keel lie ten stamens, joined into two parcels; and the ovary grows into a small hairy pod, containing, when ripe, several round black seeds. The

flowers are very fragrant; the scent, which is similar to a mixture of orange-flowers and roses, being almost too powerful for a close apartment. The plant is easily managed, growing freely in good garden soil. The seeds should be sown about the beginning of March, and the plants require to have placed about them some twigg branches of about a yard in height, up which they will climb. These plants flower about the beginning of July. Others, sown a month later, will bloom in August. They may be sown in pots, and trained up the side of the window with very good effect in company with convolvulus major and the richly-coloured common nasturtiums.

The Bindweed is a native plant, common in corn-fields, and often seen on wayside banks. It is a troublesome weed to the farmer; but is, nevertheless, a very beautiful flower, fully deserving of examination and admiration. It has an underground perennial stem, which spreads to a considerable distance; and, as a weed, is difficult of extirpation. From this the annual leafy stems are produced; the latter trail along the ground or climb up about any tall plant in the vicinity. They have alternate leaves of a somewhat arrow-shaped outline, with a blunt point; and from the axils of the leaves the pretty pinkish or creamy convolvulus-like flowers are produced. They consist of a calyx of five ovate, obtuse, hairy pieces, and a bell-trumpet-shaped corolla, which has five plaits and five indistinct lobes; the colour is usually delicate pink, with a yellowish centre. There are in the interior five stamens. This plant belongs to the Convolvulus family—a group which is generally to be recognised by their trumpet-mouthed flowers. There is in the corolla of these flowers a peculiarity of structure worth pointing out: having five plaits, and five indistinct lobes, there is no doubt they are formed of five petals, but yet they consist of only one piece, the edges of the petals being in this case joined together from nearly the earliest stage, instead of continuing separate, as in many other flowers; and thus becomes formed what is called a monopetalous or one-petaled flower. This monopetalous group is extensive, and the characteristic is made use of to assist in dividing the larger dicotyledonous group into subdivisions, which are separated into the monopetalous or one-petaled and the polypetalous or many-petaled flowers. Bindweed is hardly a plant for the garden; and yet there are few prettier summer flowers for a dry sterile part of the garden, or a dry piece of rock-work. The only culture required would be to dig up, towards autumn, portions of the underground perennial stems, and to plant them where they are required to grow, guarding afterwards against the too great extension of the plants.

The Hollyhock is, perhaps, one of the most effective of plants cultivated for ornament, on account of its large size, peculiar habit, and richly-coloured noble flowers, ranged in masses along the stems. It is, in truth, a majestic plant, such as a painter would love to represent. The accompanying figure represents the double-flowered hollyhock of some years back; those of the present day being filled out nearly to the full size of the outer petals, with a semi-globular mass of florets, adding greatly to the size and richness of the flower. It appears to be chiefly a native of the Levant, and was introduced during the sixteenth century; but, though long cultivated and admired, it is only within the last ten or twelve years it has received the special attention of florists, and advanced rapidly as a popular flower. This has, perhaps, arisen from the hardy nature and easy cultivation of the plant, though these qualities should rather recommend it than otherwise. The plant is perennial, but not naturally long-lived; it produces from the root a few coarse, large, roundish leaves, more or less lobed at the margin, and a stout, erect stem, three to six feet or more in height, according to the nature of the variety, or the richness of the soil in which they are planted. These stems are furnished below, here and there, with similar leaves to those from the root, only on shorter stalks, which leaves gradually become smaller and closer as they are placed nearer the top of the stem; from the axil of these upper leaves, extending halfway down the stem or even lower, the flowers are produced, and, when the leaves are moderately close and the flowers large, the result is a long dense spike of blossoms, with here and there a green leaf protruding between them. These are the double kinds, in which the central bunch of stamens becomes converted into a mass of petal-like bodies, forming a dense, even, semi-globular mass, with the broad, flat, natural petals (technically called guard petals), lying all round beneath, and projecting a little beyond the central mass. The single-flowered parents of the double flowers differ in having but a single row of large, obversely, heart-shaped petals within the apparently double five-pointed calyx; and in the centre stands, as it were, a pedestal, the sides and top of which are covered over by a crowd of stamens. The ovary, or rather circle of ovaries, is buried beneath the pedestal of stamens, and becomes exposed when the corolla falls away, the ring of ovaries being converted into a ring of thin compressed seeds. The flowers are to be had of nearly all shades of colour, from a bright crimson-scarlet to a deep crimson and maroon, almost to black on the one hand, and, though rose pink, and blush, to white on the other; some also being yellow, and others variously mottled. No flower yields to this in grandeur; the noble aspiring stalks, garnished, as it were, with roses, produce a rich effect planted either on the borders of shrubby plantations, or behind dwarfier flowers in wide borders of the flower garden. It rises with a degree of dignity from amongst clumps of dwarf flowering shrubs, that is not excelled by any plant whatever. The hollyhock is propagated freely by seeds, but the progeny is varied and uncertain as to colour and quality. Hence, although seedlings may serve very well for planting in quantity in shrubberies, the choicer kinds, adapted for more prominent positions in the garden, must be increased by cuttings taken from the stem. It is quite desirable that the old plants of these choicer kinds should not be allowed to perfect seed, which they naturally do in great abundance, as this is apt to exhaust the plants, and cause them to die away, the plant, though a perennial, being naturally short-lived; hence the seeds of such kinds should be removed, and the stems themselves cut away as early as possible, in order to encourage new growth from the root. When a little seed from a choicer kind is required for the purpose of obtaining new kinds, one or two of the seed-clusters may be left to ripen. The seeds should be sown about April, and the young plants planted where they are to remain, during showery weather, in the course of the summer or in autumn. They like a rich, light, dry soil best; but grow very well in good ordinary garden earth. Though in garden scenery the plants look well in groups, particularly in groups of one colour, yet they should not be crowded, but so placed that every spike may be distinctly seen. The plant belongs to the Mallow tribe, and affords an example of the consolidation of the filaments of the stamens into a common mass, forming a tube through which the stamens of the buried ovaries reach the air and light.



JULY AND AUGUST.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

JULY.

THE SUN is in the sign of Cancer until 5h. 6m. A.M. of the 23rd, when it passes into that of Leo. It is north of the Equator during this month.

The MOON is near Uranus on the 7th, near Jupiter on the 8th, near Saturn on the 11th, near Venus on the 13th, and near Mars on the 19th. It is at its least distance from the Earth on the 10th, and at its greatest distance on the 22nd. It passes over Alpha Leonis on the 13th, the star disappearing at 32 minutes past noon, and reappearing at 1h. 35m. P.M.

Last Quarter occurs at 43 minutes past 6 on the morning of the 4th.

New Moon " 24 " 9 on the evening of the 10th.

First Quarter " 39 " 8 on the evening of the 17th.

Full Moon " 3 " midnight of the 25th.

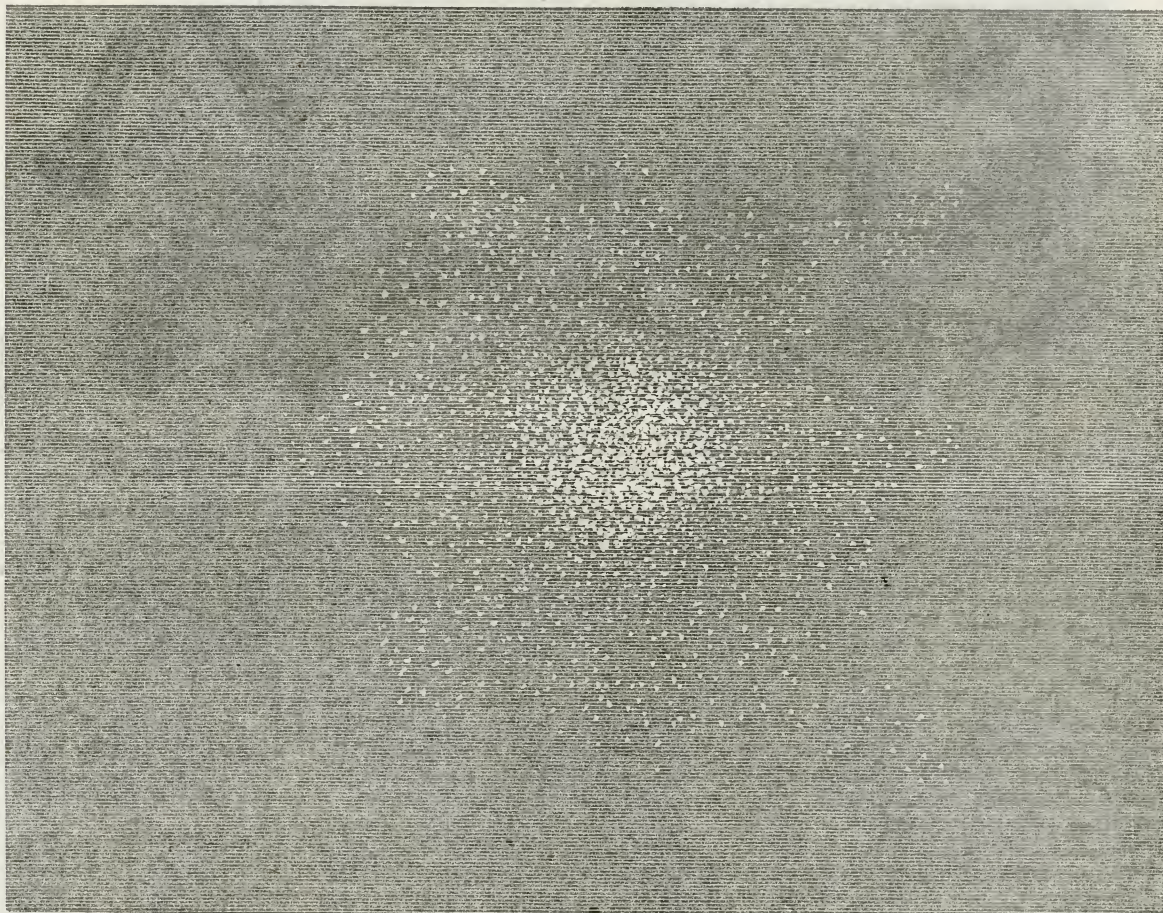
MERCURY is badly situated for observation until the end of the month, when it sets fifty minutes after the Sun. It is in superior conjunction to the Sun on the 8th, near the Moon on the 10th, near Saturn on the 15th, and near Alpha Leonis on the morning of the 31st. It is situated in the constellation of Gemini at the beginning, and in that of Leo at the end, of the month.

rius, and in the S.S.E. that of Capricornus. The N.E. is rich in stars, containing the constellations of Cassiopeia, Andromeda, Triangulum, Cepheus, Perseus; Camelopardalus and a few of the group of Aries appear in the E.N.E. horizon.

TIME OF SOUTHING OF THE PRINCIPAL STARS WHICH PASS THE MERIDIAN BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 15TH OF JULY.

Alpha Coronæ Borealis	7h. 55m. P.M.	Alpha Ophiuchi	.. 9h. 54m. P.M.
Alpha Serpentis	.. 8 3 "	Gamma Draconis	.. 10 19 "
Beta Scorpîi	.. 8 23 "	Alpha Lyrae	.. 10 58 "
Antares	.. 8 47 "	Beta Lyrae	.. 11 11 "
Alpha Herculis	.. 9 34 "	Zeta Aquila	.. 11 25 "

Between the two close double stars Eta and Zeta Herculis (see the diagram for June) a keen eye may distinguish, on a dark and clear night, a faint speck of nebulous or cometary light. This is the celebrated NEBULA IN HERCULES—one of the most magnificent globular clusters in the northern or southern sky; and which, under a powerful telescope, is resolved into thousands of minute stars, and covers a considerable space. Towards the



CLUSTER IN HERCULES.

VENUS sets at 10h. 6m. P.M. on July 1, and at 9h. 11m. P.M. of the 31st, and is about three-quarters full at the latter time. It is near the Moon on the 13th, near Alpha Leonis on the morning of the 18th, near Chi Leonis on the morning of the 28th, and near Sigma Leonis on the evening of the 30th. It is in the constellation of Cancer at the beginning, and in that of Leo at the end, of the month.

MARS is now the evening star, but becoming perceptibly fainter. It souths at a quarter past eight on July 1, and at 6h. 49m. P.M. on the 31st, setting at the former time at thirty-five minutes past midnight, and at 10h. 55m. P.M. on the latter occasion. It is near the Moon on the 19th. It continues in the constellation of Libra during this month.

JUPITER is now a morning star, rising at 1h. 50m. A.M. of the 1st, and at eight minutes past midnight of the 31st. It remains in the constellation of Taurus during the month. It is near the Moon on the morning of the 8th.

SATURN is now invisible to unaided vision, and comes into conjunction with the Sun on the 25th. It is near the Moon on the 11th. It is situated in the constellation of Gemini throughout the month.

The constellations of Lyra, Aquila, and Sagittarius are S. of the zenith at midnight, with a few of the stars of Draco at the zenith. To the N. there are a few of the stars of Camelopardalus and Ursa Major; and the constellation of Lynx is situated near the N. horizon. In the eastern horizon the group of Pisces appears; and between it and Lyra are those of Cygnus and Pegasus. A little to the E. of the meridian are the small groups of Vulpecula, Sagitta (above Aquila), with Delphinus and Equuleus to the E. of it. In the S.E. is the constellation of Aqua-

centre the stars are so numerous as almost completely to obscure the dark sky, and there is a perfect blaze of light at and around this point. At the exterior parts the stars are very easily distinguished, and are grouped into lines in two or three places, which gives the cluster a radiating appearance. The Engraving represents it as seen in one of Merz's large refracting telescopes, in which, however, it appears considerably fainter than when viewed through the large reflectors of Lassell and Herschel, not to mention that of Lord Rosse. Sir W. Herschel considered that there were at least fourteen thousand stars visible in this cluster; but by others it has been estimated that only one-half that number are contained in it; but it is not impossible that the greater optical power of the telescopes of the former astronomer might show fainter stars than those generally perceived in the group. When we consider that no more than two thousand stars are visible to a person of average sight on a dark and clear night in winter, in the whole expanse of the heavens, when there is neither twilight nor moonlight, even the smaller result will appear astonishing. But the fourteen thousand stars dwindle into insignificance when compared with the richness of our own group and the surrounding Milky Way, as revealed by the telescope, where, as Struve has calculated, six millions of stars visible in the 20-foot reflector of Herschel are contained in the zone of thirty degrees in breadth at the equator. There are numerous other globular clusters in the heavens, some of which are probably richer than that of Hercules, but composed of fainter stars, which are more closely grouped together, and may be presumed to be at a greater distance; but none of them present the same splendid appearance or compact form as the one under consideration.

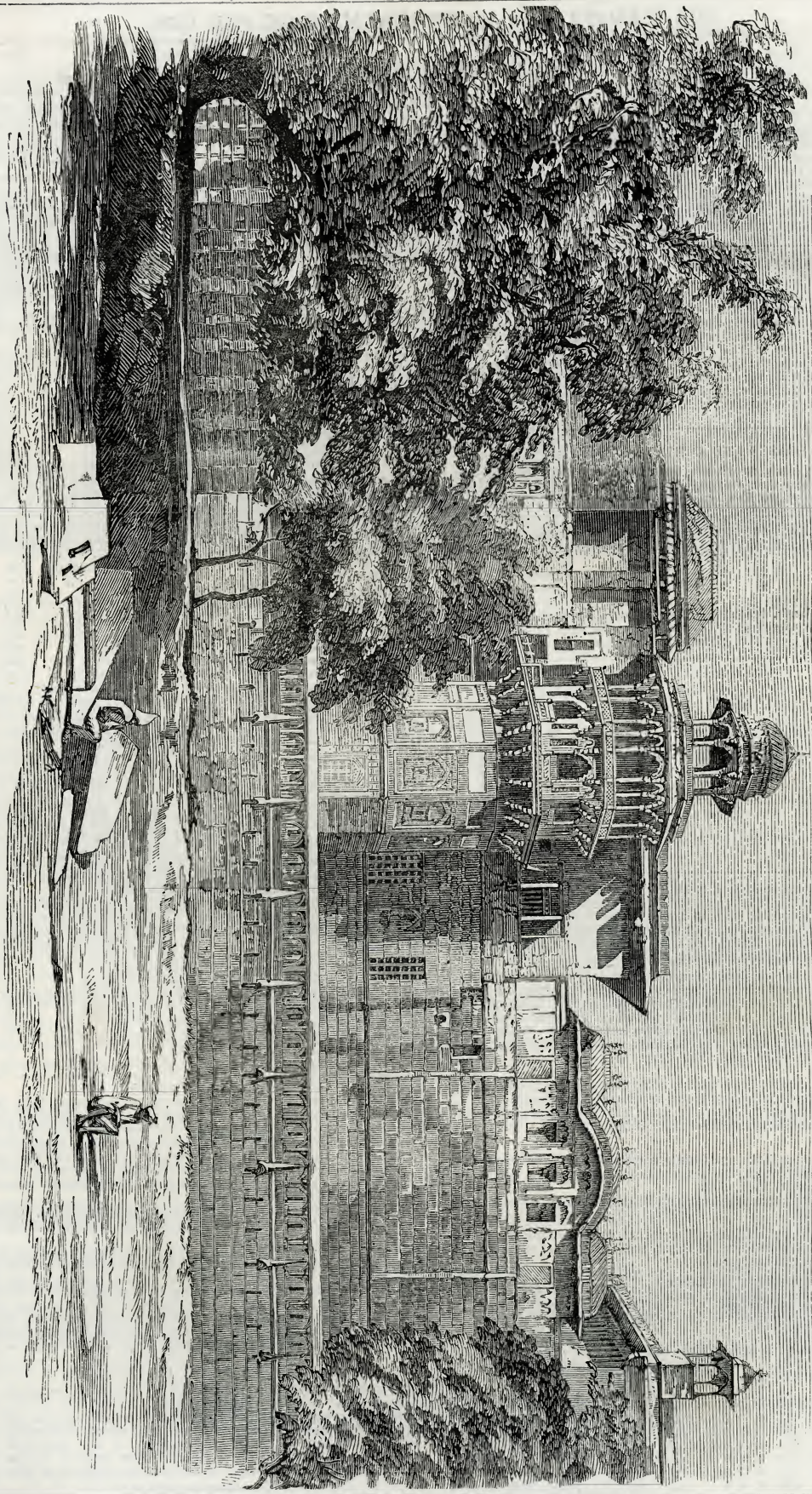
AUGUST

1858



AUGUST THIRTY-ONE DAYS.

Day of Month.	Day of Week.	ANNIVERSARIES, FESTIVALS, REMARKABLE EVENTS.	SUN.					MOON.					HIGH WATER AT				PLANETS.																										
			Rises at Lon- don.	SOUTH.			SETS at Lon- don.	Rises at Lon- don. Aftern.	SOUTH.		SETS at Lon- don.	AGE.	LONDON BRIDGE.		LIVERPOOL DOCK.		Day of M.	Rise.		South	Set.																						
				H.	M.	S.			H.	M.			Morn.	H.	M.	Morn.		Aftern.	H.			M.	H.	M.	H.	M.																	
																											H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.									
1	S	9TH S. aft. TRIN.	4	25	12	6	27	46	9	50	4	34	11	52	22	5	49	6	10	2	48	3	8	Mercury.	{	1	6	6	28	M	1	33	A	8	36	A							
2	M	Sun rises at Dublin 4h 15m	4	26	12	5	58	7	45	10	8	5	22	Aftern.	6	30	6	51	3	29	3	53	11														6	6	53	1	40	8	25
3	Tu	Sun sets at Dublin 7h 49m	4	27	12	5	54	7	43	10	35	6	15	2	43	24	7	15	7	41	4	19	4														16	7	14	1	44	8	13
4	W	Sun rises at Edinburgh 4h 12m	4	29	12	5	49	7	41	11	15	7	13	4	9	25	8	10	8	46	5	24	6														6	7	28	1	44	7	58
5	Th	Sun sets at Edinburgh 7h 57m	4	31	12	5	44	7	40	Morn.	8	16	5	26	26	9	28	10	9	6	47	7	32														21	7	39	1	41	7	42
6	F	Tr. of our Lord	4	33	12	5	38	7	38	0	12	9	22	6	25	27	10	54	11	36	8	14	8	54	26	7	42	1	32	7	22												
7	S	Name of Jesus	4	34	12	5	31	7	36	1	28	10	27	7	5	28	—	0	16	9	29	9	58	Venus.	{	1	8	2	2	35	A	9	7										
8	S	10TH S. aft. TRIN.	4	35	12	5	24	7	35	3	0	11	28	7	34	29	0	51	1	20	10	27	10											51	11	8	2	2	37	8	57		
9	M	Length of day at London 14h 56m	4	37	12	5	16	7	33	4	33	Aftern.	7	52	30	1	49	2	13	11	16	11	40											16	8	43	2	39	8	33			
10	Tu	St. Lawrence	4	38	12	5	7	7	31	6	3	1	16	8	8	1	2	38	3	2	—	0	1											26	9	10	2	40	8	9			
11	W	Dog days end	4	40	12	4	59	7	29	7	28	2	3	8	21	2	3	23	3	44	0	22	0											40	6	2	45	6	47	10	52		
12	Th	Day breaks 2h 9m	4	42	12	4	49	7	27	8	51	2	49	8	32	3	4	2	4	23	1	1	1	19	11	2	35	6	36	10	38												
13	F	Twilight ends 9h 51m	4	43	12	4	39	7	25	10	10	3	33	8	45	4	4	41	5	1	1	39	1	56	16	2	37	6	26	10	25												
14	S	Length of day at London 14h 38m	4	45	12	4	28	7	23	11	27	4	18	8	57	5	5	18	5	36	2	14	2	33	21	2	22	6	17	10	13												
15	S	11TH S. aft. TRIN.	4	46	12	4	17	7	21	Aftern.	5	4	9	14	6	5	55	6	13	2	51	3	9	Mars.	{	1	2	42	A	6	47	10	52										
16	M	{born, 1786	4	48	12	4	5	7	19	2	0	5	52	9	36	D	6	31	6	52	3	30	3											52	11	2	35	6	36	10	38		
17	Tu	Duchess of Kent	4	50	12	3	53	7	17	3	12	6	41	10	7	8	7	14	7	38	4	16	4											45	16	2	37	6	26	10	25		
18	W	Sun rises at Dublin 4h 45m	4	51	12	3	40	7	15	4	17	7	32	10	47	9	8	7	8	44	5	22	6											2	11	11	32	7	43	3	50		
19	Th	Sun sets at Dublin 7h 18m	4	53	12	3	27	7	13	5	9	8	24	11	41	10	9	24	10	8	6	46	7											29	16	11	35	7	26	3	34		
20	F	Sun rises at Edinburgh 4h 42m	4	54	12	3	13	7	11	5	49	9	15	Morn.	11	10	51	11	33	8	11	8	52	Jupiter.	{	1	10	58	7	10	38												
21	S	Sun sets at Edinburgh 7h 20m	4	56	12	2	59	7	9	6	18	10	4	0	46	12	—	0	14	9	19	9	42									16	11	49	8	0	4	6					
22	S	12TH S. aft. TRIN.	4	57	12	2	44	7	7	6	40	10	52	1	58	13	0	41	1	4	10	5	10									25	11	11	32	7	43	3	50				
23	M	Day breaks 2h 12m	4	59	12	2	28	7	5	6	57	11	37	3	14	14	1	27	1	47	10	43	11									0	21	10	58	7	10	3	18				
24	Tu	St. Bartholomew	5	0	12	2	13	7	3	7	10	Morn.	4	30	15	2	5	2	22	11	17	11	33									26	10	41	6	53	3	2					
25	W	Twilight ends 9h 14m	5	2	12	1	57	7	1	7	22	0	21	5	47	16	2	39	2	55	11	47	—	Saturn.	{	1	3	50	M	11	42	7	33										
26	Th	Pr. Alb. b., 1819	5	3	12	1	40	6	58	7	32	1	4	7	2	17	3	9	3	26	0	4	0											19	11	3	17	11	8	6	58		
27	F	Length of day at London 13h 51m	5	5	12	1	23	6	56	7	44	1	47	8	20	18	3	41	3	56	0	34	0											52	16	3	2	10	51	6	40		
28	S	St. Augustine	5	7	12	1	6	6	54	7	57	2	32	9	40	19	4	14	4	30	1	8	1											23	21	2	45	10	34	6	23		
29	S	13TH S. aft. TRIN.	5	9	12	0	48	6	52	8	14	3	20	11	3	20	4	45	5	2	1	40	1											58	26	2	30	10	17	6	4		
30	M	Sun rises at Edinburgh 5h 2m	5	10	12	0	30	6	50	8	37	4	11	Aftern.	21	5	20	5	38	2	16	2	36	Uranus.	{	1	11	25	A	7	25	3	21										
31	Tu	Sun sets at Edinburgh 6h 55m	5	12	12	0	12	6	48	9	11	5	7	1	54	22	5	58	6	20	2	58	3											23	11	10	45	6	47	2	44		



PORTION OF THE FORT AT AGRA.—FROM THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

STAMP AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DUTIES.

RECEIPTS.

For £2 and upwards One penny.
N.B. Persons receiving the money are to pay the duty.
(Receipts may be stamped within 14 days of date on payment of £5, or within one month on payment of £10, penalty: after that time they cannot be stamped.)
Adhesive stamps of One Penny may be used for receipts, or drafts, or orders on demand, without regard to their special appropriation; i.e. one will do for the other, and vice versa.
Receipts for money paid to Crown exempt from Stamp duty. No exemption for letters acknowledging receipt of Bills or Money Securities.

AGREEMENTS (NOT UNDER SEAL).

Of the value of £20 or upwards 2s. 6d.
If the agreement contain 2160 words, or upwards, then for every quantity of 1080 words over the first 1080, a further progressive duty of .. 2s. 6d.
Exemptions.—Letters containing any agreement in respect of merchandise, by post, between merchants or traders in Great Britain or Ireland, residing and actually being, at the time, at the distance of 50 miles from each other; agreements relating to sale of goods; to hire of labourers, servants, and seamen; and to rack-rent leases under £5 per annum.
Agreements may be stamped within 14 days after date without penalty, and at any time after 14 days on payment of £10 penalty.

LEASES AND CONVEYANCES.

LEASE or Tack of any lands, tenements, hereditaments, or heritable subjects, at a yearly rent, for less than thirty-five years, or less than a year, without any sum of money by way of fine, premium, or grassum paid for the same:—

	s. d.	Exceed. £25 and not exc. £50	s. d.
Yearly rent not exceeding £5	0 6	50	5 0
Exceeding £5 and not exceeding 10	1 0	75	7 6
" 10	1 5	100	10 0
" 15	2 0	100, then for every 50	5 0
" 20	2 5	or any fractional part of 50	5 0

Lease or Tack of any lands, tenements, hereditaments, or heritable subjects, for any term of years exceeding thirty-five, at a yearly rent, with or without any sum of money by way of fine, premium, or grassum.

	Term not exceeding 100 Years.	Term exceeding 100 Years.
Where yearly rent not exceeding £5	£ s. d. 0 3 0	£ s. d. 0 6 0
And where exceeding £5 and not exceeding £10	0 6 0	0 12 0
" 10	0 9 0	0 18 0
" 15	0 12 0	1 4 0
" 20	0 15 0	1 10 0
" 25	1 10 0	3 0 0
" 50	2 5 0	4 10 0
" 75	3 0 0	6 0 0
Same exceeding £100, then for every £50, and also for any fractional part of £50	1 10 0	3 0 0

And where any such Lease or Tack as aforesaid shall be granted in consideration of a Fine, Premium, or Grassum, and also of a yearly Rent, such Lease or Tack shall be chargeable also, in respect of such Fine, Premium, or Grassum, with the *ad valorem* Stamp on Conveyances, pursuant to the 13 and 14 Vict., c. 97; see below. *Exemption.*—Any Lease under the Trinity College (Dublin) Leasing and Perpetuity Act, 1851.

CONVEYANCE of any kind or description whatsoever in England or Ireland, and Charter, Disposition, or Contract containing the first original Constitution of Fee and Ground Annual Rights in Scotland (not being a Lease or Tack for Years), in consideration of an annual sum payable in perpetuity or for any indefinite period, whether Fee Farm or other Rent, Fee Duty, Ground Annual, or otherwise The same Duty as on a Lease or Tack for a Term exceeding 100 Years, at a yearly Rent equal to such annual sum.

Exemptions.—Any Lease for Lives not exceeding Three, or for a Term of Years determinable with Lives not exceeding Three, by whomsoever granted, Any Grant in Fee Simple or in Perpetuity made in Ireland under the Renewable Leasehold Conversion Act, or of the Trinity College (Dublin) Leasing and Perpetuity Act, 1851.

All which said Leases or Tacks and Grants respectively shall be chargeable with the Stamp Duties to which the same were subject and liable before the passing of the Act 16 and 17 Vict., c. 63.

Duplicate or Counterpart are chargeable with Progressive Duty, as under the 13th and 14th Vict., c. 97.

LICENSE to DEMISE Copyhold Lands, Tenements, or Hereditaments, or the Memorandum thereof, if granted out of Court, and the Copy of Court Roll of any such License, if granted in Court.

Where the clear yearly value of the Estate to be demised shall be expressed in such License, and shall not exceed £75 The same Duty as on a Lease at a yearly Rent equal to such yearly Value, under the Act of the 13th and 14th Vict., c. 97.

And in all other cases, 10s.

CONVEYANCE (pursuant to 13 and 14 Vict. c. 97):—	£ s. d.
Purchase or consideration money expressed, not ex-£ s. d.	
ceeding £25	225 1 2 6
Exceed. £25 and not ex. £50 0 5 0	250 1 5 0
" 50	275 1 7 6
" 75	300 1 10 0
" 100	350 1 15 0
" 125	400 2 0 0
" 150	450 2 5 0
" 175	500 2 10 0
" 200 1 0 0	550 2 15 0
" 225	600 3 0 0

BILLS OF EXCHANGE, PROMISSORY NOTES, &c.

Inland Bill of Exchange, Draft, or Order for the Payment to the Bearer, or to Order, at any Time otherwise than on Demand, of any Sum of Money:—

	£ s. d.
£5	10 0 0 1
10	25 0 0 3
25	50 0 0 6
50	75 0 0 9
75	100 0 1 0
100	200 0 2 0
200	300 0 3 0
300	400 0 4 0
400	500 0 5 0
500	750 0 7 6
750	1000 0 10 0
1000	1500 0 15 0
1500	2000 1 0 0
2000	3000 1 10 0
3000	4000 2 0 0
4000	2 5 0

Foreign Bill of Exchange drawn in, but payable out of, the United Kingdom,—if drawn singly, or otherwise than in a set of three or more—the same Duty as on an Inland Bill of the same amount and tenor.

If drawn in sets of three or more, for every bill of each set where the sum payable thereby shall not exceed £25 0 1
Above £25 and not exceeding 50 0 2
" 50 " 75 0 3
" 75 " 100 0 4
" 100 " 200 0 8
" 200 " 300 1 0
" 300 " 400 1 4
" 400 " 500 1 8
" 500 " 750 2 6
" 750 " 1000 3 4
" 1000 " 1500 5 0
" 1500 " 2000 6 8
" 2000 " 3000 10 0
" 3000 " 4000 13 4
" 4000 " 15 0

Foreign Bill of Exchange drawn out of, and payable within, United Kingdom, same duty as on Inland Bill of the same amount and tenor.

Foreign Bill of Exchange drawn out of, and payable out of, United Kingdom, but if dorsed or negotiated within the United Kingdom, same Duty as on Foreign Bill drawn within United Kingdom, and payable out of United Kingdom.

Duty on Foreign Bills drawn out of United Kingdom to be denoted by Adhesive Stamps.

Promissory Note for the Payment in any other manner than to the Bearer on Demand of any sum of money:—

	£ s. d.
Not exceeding	£5 0 1
Above £5 and not exceeding 10 0 2	" 10 " 25 0 3
" 10 " 25 0 6	" 25 " 75 0 9
" 25 " 75 10 10	" 75 " 100 1 0
Promissory Note for the payment, either to the Bearer on Demand, or in any other manner than to the Bearer on Demand, of any Sum of Money:—	£ s. d.
Exceeding £100 & not ex. £200 0 2 0	" 200 " 300 0 3 0
" 200 " 300 400 0 4 0	" 300 " 400 500 0 5 0
" 400 " 500 750 0 7 0	" 500 " 1000 1000 0 10 0
" 750 " 1000 1500 0 15 0	" 1000 " 2000 2000 1 0 0
" 1500 " 2000 3000 1 10 0	" 2000 " 3000 4000 2 0 0
" 3000 " 4000 2 5 0	

APPRENTICES' INDENTURES, AND ASSIGNMENTS OF THEM.

Where no money is paid .. 2s. 6d.
Under £30 £1
For £30 and under £50 .. 2
" 50 " 100 .. 3
" 100 " 200 .. 6
" 200 " 300 .. 12
" 300 " 400 .. 20
" 400 " 500 .. 25
" 500 " 600 .. 30
" 600 " 800 .. 40
" 800 " 1000 .. 50
1000 and upwards .. 60
Contracts to serve as Artificers, Servants, Clerks, Mechanics, or Labourers, in the British Colonies, are exempted from Stamp Duty.

PROTESTS. BILL OR NOTE.

£20) and { 100 .. 3 0
100) under { 500 .. 5 0
500) upwards { .. 10 0
Of any other kind 5 0
Bills of Lading (cannot be stamped after execution) .. 0 6
Charterparty 5 0
(Charterparty may be stamped within 14 days after execution free of penalty; within one month, £10 penalty; after one month, cannot be stamped.)

DUTIES ON LEGACIES, &c.

Of the value of £20, or upwards.
To children or their descendants, or lineal ancestors of the deceased .. £1 0 0
Brother or sister, or their descendants 3 0 0
Uncle or aunt, or their descendants 5 0 0
Grand-uncle or aunt, or their descendants 6 0 0
All other relations, or strangers 10 0 0
The husband or wife of the deceased not chargeable with duty.

NEWSPAPERS.

By the 16th and 17th Vic., c. 63, s. 2, no higher stamp duty than one penny shall be chargeable on any newspaper printed on one sheet of paper, containing a superficies not exceeding 2295 inches. The superficies in all cases to be one side only of the sheet of paper, and exclusive of the margin of the letterpress.

A supplement published with a newspaper duly stamped with one penny duty, such supplement being printed on one sheet of paper only, and together with the newspaper containing in the aggregate a superficies not exceeding 2295 inches, shall be free from stamp duty.

Any other supplement to a duly stamped newspaper shall not be chargeable with a higher stamp duty than one halfpenny, provided it does not contain a superficies exceeding 1148 inches.

And any two supplements to a duly stamped newspaper shall not be chargeable with a higher stamp duty than one halfpenny on each, provided each supplement be printed and published on one sheet of paper only, and that they contain together a superficies not exceeding in the aggregate 2295 inches.

No paper containing news, &c., is to be deemed to be a newspaper within the 6th and 7th Wm. IV., c. 76, or any act relating to stamp duties on newspapers, unless the same shall be published periodically, or in parts or numbers at intervals not exceeding 26 days between the publication of any such two parts or numbers.

LETTER OR POWER OF ATTORNEY.

Letter or power of attorney, or commission or factory in the nature thereof £ s. d. 1 10 0
And where the same, together with any schedule or other matter put or endorsed thereon, or annexed thereto, shall contain 2160 words, or upwards, then, for every entire quantity of 1080 words contained therein, over and above the first 1080 words, a further progressive duty at 20s. under 55 George 3, but under act of 1850 0 10 0

(Continued on page 54.)

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

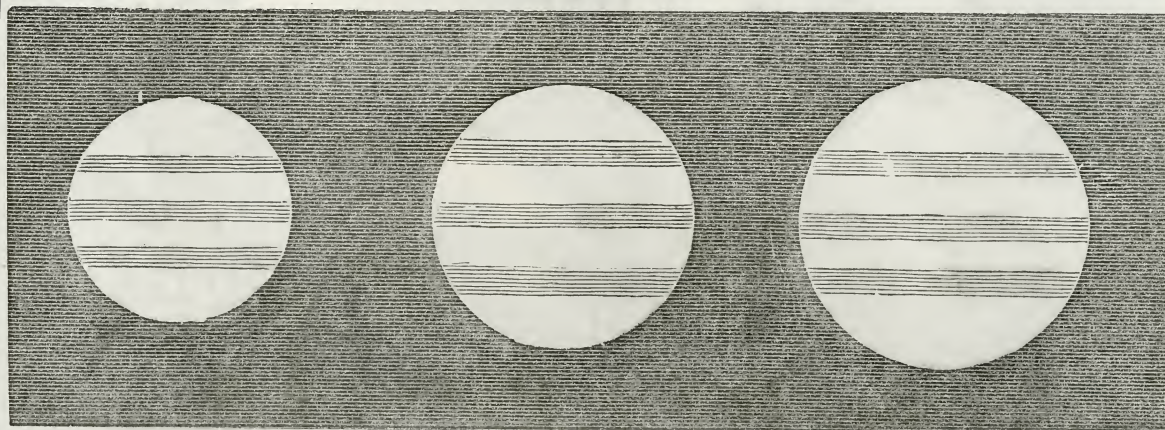
AUGUST.

THE SUN is north of the Equator during this month, and remains in the sign of Leo until 11h. 39m. A.M. of the 23rd, when it passes into that of Virgo.

THE MOON is near Uranus on the 4th, near Jupiter on the morning of the 5th, near Saturn on the 8th, near Mercury on the 11th, near Venus on

at the zenith, and that of Cepheus is situated between the zenith and North Pole. A little to the S.E. of the zenith is the constellation of Pegasus. In the W. the constellation of Serpens is situated, and between it and the zenith those of Hercules and Lyra. In the S.W. is that of Aquila, and between it and Cygnus are those of Vulpecula and Sagitta, and Delphinus and Equuleus are situated to the E. of it. In the N.W. is that of Canes Venatici, and to the N.W. of the zenith is that

RELATIVE DIMENSIONS OF JUPITER.



AUGUST 5, 1855.

JANUARY 1, 1855.

DECEMBER 10, 1853.

the 12th, near Mars on the 17th, and again near Uranus on the 31st. On the 24th it is eclipsed, but the eclipse will not be visible at London.

THE LAST QUARTER occurs at 2 minutes past 2 on the afternoon of the 2nd.

THE NEW MOON " 54 " 4 on the morning of the 9th.

THE FIRST QUARTER " 42 " 11 on the morning of the 16th.

THE FULL MOON " 12 " 2 on the afternoon of the 24th.

THE LAST QUARTER " 16 " 8 on the afternoon of the 31st.

It is nearest the Earth on the 7th, and most distant on the 19th.

MERCURY is favourably situated for observation during this month. On the 1st it sets at 50 minutes after the Sun in the N.W., on the 20th it sets about 20 minutes after the Sun due west. It is situated near Rho Leonis on the morning of the 4th, near the Moon on the 11th, near Tau Leonis on the morning of the 14th, and is at its greatest easterly elongation on the 18th. It is situated in the constellation of Leo at the beginning, and in that of Virgo at the end, of the month.

VENUS is three-quarters full at the beginning of August, and is increasing in brightness. At the middle of August it sets an hour and a quarter after the Sun, nearly due west; and at the end of August one hour and eight minutes after the Sun, in the W.S.W. horizon. It is in the constellation of Leo at the beginning, and in that of Virgo (near Alpha Virginis) at the end, of the month. It is situated near Beta Virginis on the morning of the 8th, near the Moon on the 12th, and near Eta Virginis on the 13th.

MARS is near the Moon on the 17th, and sets shortly after dark in the S.W. On August 1 it souths at 6h. 47m. P.M., and on the 31st at 5h. 53m. P.M. On August 15 it sets at 10h. 15m. P.M., and is becoming rapidly fainter. It is a little to the south of Antares or Alpha Scorpil on the 27th, and their relative colours and magnitudes can be readily compared. It remains in the constellation of Scorpio throughout the month.

JUPITER is now a morning star, rising at a little past midnight of the 1st of the month; and before midnight, at the middle of the month, in the N.E. It remains in the constellation of Taurus throughout August. It is near the Moon on the night of the 4th.

of Draco. In the N.E. the constellations of Boötes and Corona Borealis are situated, in the E. that of Aries, and above it those of Triangulum and Andromeda. In the S.E. are those of Cetus and Pisces. The Hyades now appear above the horizon in the E.N.E.; and above Taurus are the constellations of Perseus and Cassiopeia. Auriga is in the N.E.; and the Lynx, Ursa Major, and Canes Venatici in the N.

TIME OF SOUTHING OF THE PRINCIPAL STARS WHICH PASS THE MERIDIAN BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 15TH OF AUGUST.

Alpha Herculis ..	7h. 32m. P.M.	Gamma Aquilæ ..	10h. 4m. P.M.
Alpha Ophiuchi ..	7 52 "	Alpha Aquilæ ..	10 8 "
Gamma Draconis ..	8 17 "	Beta Aquilæ ..	10 12 "
Alpha Lyre ..	8 56 "	Alpha Capricorni ..	10 34 "
Beta Lyre ..	9 9 "	Alpha Cygni ..	11 1 "

As the nights increase in length and darkness during the autumn, the planet JUPITER reappears in his wonted brightness, and will continue one of the most lustrous ornaments of the heavens for the remainder of the year, increasing in size and splendour until it arrives in opposition in December. When the telescope is directed towards this, the largest planet of the system, the varying position of the satellites from hour to hour, the changes in the form and dimensions of its belts, and the conspicuous bulging out of the planet at the equator (all of which are visible in an ordinary instrument with a power of 100), make it an object of considerable interest. The belts of Jupiter are subject to great change, and during the opposition of 1856 they appeared in greater number and variety than has been observed for some years past. The position of the planet in northerly latitudes on this occasion, and its proximity to the Earth, were, however, very favourable for observation. The number of dark belts seen on Jupiter varies greatly; most commonly only three or four are visible, but, on one occasion, as many as forty streaks have been counted by Herschel, running parallel to the equator. It will be seen by the diagrams that this latter condition is not always fulfilled, and great irregularities are perceived at times in the direction of the dark belts;

APPEARANCES OF JUPITER'S DARK BELTS.



SEPTEMBER 16, 1856.

SEPTEMBER 30, 1856.

OCTOBER 1, 1856.

OCTOBER 8, 1855.

SATURN is badly situated for view during this month. It is near the Moon on the morning of the 8th. It remains in the constellation of Cancer throughout the month, and rises at about two hours past midnight at the end of August.

At midnight of the 15th of this month a few of the stars of the constellation of Piscis Australis, with the star Fomalhaut, appear above the S. horizon. On the meridian there appear the eastern part of Capricornus and the western part of Aquarius. The constellation of Cygnus is

sometimes they break up into spots, and at other times they appear like masses of cumulo-stratus clouds. Bright spots are occasionally seen on the dark belts, and spots considerably brighter than the luminous surface of the planet sometimes appear on the bright belts. During the opposition in 1855 the belts preserved nearly an uniform appearance, and the lower part of the disc of the planet, to a distance of nearly fifty degrees from the pole, was very dark. The drawings of Jupiter, here given, were taken with the Northumberland 20-feet refractor of the Cambridge Observatory.

SEPTEMBER

1858



SEPTEMBER THIRTY DAYS.

Day of Month.	Day of Week.	ANNIVERSARIES, FESTIVALS, REMARKABLE EVENTS.	SUN.			MOON.			HIGH WATER AT				PLANETS.					
			Rises at Lon- don.	SOUTH.	SETS at Lon- don.	Rises at London. Aftern.	SOUTH.	SETS at Lon- don. Aftern.	AGE.	LONDON BRIDGE.		LIVERPOOL DOCK.		Day of M.	Rise.	South.	Set.	
										Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.					
1	W	<i>Giles.</i> Part. and Bust. shooting begins.	H. M.	H. M.	S. H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	DYS	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	Mercury.	1	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.
2	Th	London bnt. 1666	5 13	11 59 53	6 45	10 0	6 7	3 13	23	6 45	7 13	3 51	4 24		6	7 28 M	1 13 A	6 57 A
3	F	Day breaks 1h 36m	5 15	11 59 35	6 43	11 10	7 10	4 17	24	7 46	8 24	5 2	5 54		11	6 20	0 48	6 34
4	S	Twilight ends 10h 28m	5 17	11 59 16	6 41	Morn.	8 13	5 2	25	9 16	10 4	6 42	7 32		16	5 34	11 39 M	5 44
5	S	14TH S. aft. TRIN.	5 19	11 58 56	6 39	0 33	9 14	5 35	26	10 54	11 39	8 17	8 52		21	4 49	11 8	5 28
6	M	Length of day at London 13h 13m	5 20	11 58 37	6 37	2 3	10 11	5 57	27	—	0 14	9 23	9 50	26	4 19	10 50	5 21	
7	Tu	<i>Eunuchus</i> [1855	5 21	11 58 17	6 34	3 33	11 4	6 13	28	0 45	1 12	10 18	10 41	Venus.	1	9 27	2 41 A	7 54
8	W	Tak. Sebastopol.	5 23	11 57 57	6 32	5 0	11 53	6 27	29	1 40	2 3	11 0	11 21		6	9 40	2 42	7 43
9	Th	Sun rises at Dublin 5h 25m	5 25	11 57 36	6 30	6 23	Aftern.	6 38	1	2 22	2 43	11 39	11 56		11	9 53	2 42	7 30
10	F	Sun sets at Dublin 6h 27m	5 26	11 57 16	6 27	7 44	1 24	6 50	2	3 1	3 18	—	0 15		16	10 5	2 43	7 18
11	S	Length of day at Edinburgh 13h 1m	5 28	11 56 56	6 25	9 3	2 10	7 3	3	3 37	3 52	0 30	0 49		21	10 20	2 44	7 7
12	S	15TH S. aft. TRIN.	5 28	11 56 56	6 25	9 3	2 10	7 3	3	3 37	3 52	0 30	0 49	26	10 32	2 45	6 56	
13	M		5 30	11 56 35	6 23	10 23	2 56	7 18	4	4 11	4 26	1 4	1 21	Mars.	1	2 7 A	5 52	9 37
14	Tu	<i>Holy Cross</i>	5 31	11 56 16	6 20	11 41	3 43	7 38	5	4 43	4 59	1 37	1 54		6	2 3	5 45	9 27
15	W	Length of day at Dublin 12h 40m	5 33	11 55 53	6 18	Aftern.	4 33	8 5	6	5 16	5 31	2 9	2 28		11	2 0	5 39	9 18
16	Th	Buck hunt. ends	5 34	11 55 32	6 16	2 4	5 24	8 41	7	5 50	6 7	2 45	3 8		16	1 55	5 33	9 11
17	F	<i>Lambert</i>	5 36	11 55 11	6 14	3 1	6 16	9 31	8	6 30	6 53	3 31	3 57		21	1 52	5 28	9 4
18	S	K. George I. land.	5 37	11 54 50	6 11	3 47	7 7	10 31	9	7 19	7 57	4 35	5 22	26	1 46	5 22	8 58	
19	S	16TH S. aft. TRIN.	5 39	11 54 29	6 9	4 20	7 57	11 40	10	8 44	9 30	6 8	6 52	Jupiter.	1	10 20	6 33 M	2 42
20	M	Bat. of Alma, 1854	5 41	11 54 8	6 7	4 44	8 45	Morn.	11	10 14	10 58	7 36	8 19		6	10 2	6 16	2 24
21	Tu	<i>St. Matthew</i>	5 43	11 53 46	6 4	5 2	9 31	0 55	12	11 41	—	8 51	9 15		11	9 44	5 58	2 8
22	W	Sun rises at Edinburgh 5h 45m	5 44	11 53 25	6 2	5 17	10 16	2 11	13	0 13	0 37	9 36	9 55		16	9 26	5 40	1 50
23	Th	Sun sets at Edinburgh 5h 54m	5 45	11 53 4	6 0	5 29	10 59	3 29	14	0 58	1 17	10 13	10 30		21	9 8	5 22	1 32
24	F	Day breaks 2h 45m	5 47	11 52 43	5 57	5 41	11 43	4 45	15	1 35	1 52	10 44	11 1	26	8 50	5 3	1 13	
25	S	Twilight ends 9h 14m	5 49	11 52 22	5 55	5 52	Morn.	6 3	16	2 6	2 23	11 17	11 31	Saturn.	1	2 10	9 56	5 43
26	S	17TH S. aft. TRIN.	5 47	11 52 43	5 57	5 41	11 43	4 45	15	1 35	1 52	10 44	11 1		6	1 52	9 39	5 24
27	M	Sun rises at Dublin 5h 57m	5 50	11 52 1	5 53	6 5	0 28	7 23	17	2 39	2 53	11 47	—		11	1 37	9 21	5 5
28	Tu	Sun sets at Dublin 5h 4'm	5 51	11 51 41	5 51	6 21	1 15	8 47	18	3 9	3 27	0 5	0 21		16	1 20	9 4	4 48
29	W	Mich. Day. <i>St. Michael</i>	5 53	11 51 20	5 48	6 42	2 6	10 14	19	3 43	4 0	0 38	0 56		21	1 3	8 46	4 31
30	Th	<i>St. Jerome</i>	5 55	11 51 0	5 46	7 13	3 2	11 41	20	4 18	4 35	1 13	1 33	26	0 46	8 28	4 10	
1	W	<i>Giles.</i> Part. and Bust. shooting begins.	5 57	11 50 40	5 44	7 57	4 1	Aftern.	21	4 55	5 16	1 54	2 17	Uranus.	1	9 24	5 26	1 24
2	Th	London bnt. 1666	5 58	11 50 20	5 42	8 59	5 4	2 12	22	5 39	6 3	2 41	3 8		6	9 5	5 6	1 3
3	F	Day breaks 1h 36m	5 53	11 51 20	5 48	6 42	2 6	10 14	19	3 43	4 0	0 38	0 56		11	8 45	4 46	0 43
4	S	Twilight ends 10h 28m	5 55	11 51 0	5 46	7 13	3 2	11 41	20	4 18	4 35	1 13	1 33		16	8 26	4 27	0 24
5	S	14TH S. aft. TRIN.	5 57	11 50 40	5 44	7 57	4 1	Aftern.	21	4 55	5 16	1 54	2 17		21	8 7	4 7	0 4
6	M	Length of day at London 13h 13m	6 0	11 50 1	5 39	10 18	6 6	3 2	22	5 39	6 3	2 41	3 8	26	7 45	3 47	11 44 M	



PART OF THE FERN-TREE GULLET IN THE DANDYNONT RANGES, AUSTRALIA.
FROM THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."

POPULAR FLOWERS OF THE SEASONS.
SEPTEMBER AND OCTOBER.

WHOEVER has traversed the heathy wastes of England (Woking-common, for example), towards the approach of autumn, cannot but have been struck with the rich effect which is produced by the association of two common plants, the Purple Heath and the Yellow Furze. These plants form rich masses of purple and gold, often spreading over an extensive surface. The vast extent of purple heath is itself sombre, and furze bushes, though brilliant, are so commonplace as to be passed unheeded; but it is when they are seen, as they often are, commingling their blossoms that the effect becomes so striking that they cannot be overlooked. This heath is *Erica cinerea*; and the Furze particularly alluded to is that of a dwarf trailing habit, *Ulex nana*, though the common Furze (*Ulex europæa*), shown in the engraving, frequently appears also in company.

The Heath is a low, slender, dark-looking branched shrub, six inches to a foot high, which almost monopolises the surface in many districts of peaty waste land. Its slender twiggy shoots are plentifully clothed with small needle-shaped leaves, disposed in whorls of three around the stems, the upper ones becoming more decidedly whorled, the whorls or circles more distant, and evident. From the axils of the upper leaves the flowers are produced, also in whorls; they consist of a small calyx, cut into four narrow segments; a corolla of ovate-urceolate form, pendent, and of a deep purple colour, and within this eight stamens of peculiar form; there is also a four-celled ovary. This heath is, evidently, therefore, an instance of tetramerous development, four being the governing number as to its parts. The flowers grow from several contiguous whorls of leaves at the upper part of the branches, which thus become converted into whorled racemes. The Picts, it is said, made a wholesome liquor from this plant, but the mode of preparing it is lost. This plant, together with the ling, another gregarious kind of heath, is used for a variety of domestic and economical purposes. The heaths are cultivated in peat soil, and the present species is well adapted for edgings to beds of the choicer peat-earth plants, the gay rhododendrons and azaleas of modern flower gardens and shrubberies.

The Furze, also called Gorse or Whin, is a native shrub, found abundantly in waste or heathy places. There are two distinct kinds—the common, which is the larger and more erect grower; and the dwarf, which is a prostrate and more slender plant; but, beyond these peculiarities, the general aspect of both plants is the same. As contrasting and intermixed with the purple heath, our remarks apply rather to the last mentioned; but as the more conspicuous of the two, and that represented on the opposite page, we shall chiefly allude to the common sort. This, then, forms an erect, branching, evergreen shrub of from two to six feet high, the branches themselves very much ramified, and branches, branchlets, and ramifications terminating in a rigid spine. The plant thus seems a mass of rigid spines. The leaves are small, and soon lost, so that the bushes may almost be regarded as leafless. The flowers are very numerous, and grow singly or in pairs from the axils of the lateral spines. They are bright golden yellow, and with a sweetish but strong heavy odour. The calyx is formed of two pieces, the upper lip with three and the lower with a pair of short teeth; the corolla is papilionaceous; the stamens ten in number—monadelphous—that is, all united into one collective group; and the flowers are succeeded by a pod or legume, the usual seed-vessel of papilionaceous-flowered plants. The bushes are scarcely ever out of flower, so that it has become a proverb that "Love goes out of fashion when the furze is out of blossom." About the year 1325 the double-flowered variety was found wild in Devonshire, and has since been very extensively cultivated in gardens as an ornamental evergreen flowering shrub. The furze will grow in any light soil, but especially in that which is sandy. The garden sort is increased by layers and cuttings; the common sort by seeds. The furze is not without its use, being employed as a fence plant, a double row being planted, and the alternate sides cut down after two or three years' growth, in order to keep the hedge thick and close near the ground. The plant is also useful in agriculture, being planted to afford fodder for cattle; the young tender tops are cut and bruised, and prove a highly nutritive food. It is also used in many parts of England as fuel by the labouring classes.

The Mountain Ash, or Rowan, or Withen, or Fowler's Service-tree, is a small native tree growing in mountainous situations; a great favourite in plantations, on account of its neat growth, its elegant foliage, and its brilliant berries. The mountain ash is erect, with a roundish head and greyish smooth bark; the leaves are pinnate, and the leaflets, of which there are several pairs, acutely elliptic, and sharply serrated. The flowers grow in terminal corymbs or flat heads, and are small, white, numerous, consisting of a calyx with five sharp divisions, a corolla of five roundish, concave petals, numerous stamens, and an inferior ovary, which grows into the globose scarlet fruit, and ripens in September. This fruit makes an excellent jelly, which is much in demand in Scotland for use with venison. A very good spirit is distilled from them, and, according to Evelyn, ale and beer brewed from them when ripe is an incomparable drink, familiar in Wales. Infused in water, the berries, which are very juicy, sour with a bitter aroma, make an acid drink somewhat resembling perry, much used in Wales by the poor. In suburban gardens this is almost the only small tree which makes any considerable display by means of its fruit, and one great advantage attending its introduction to such situations is that it does not require pruning, and does not grow out of shape. It is one of the pome-bearing members of the Rose family. The tree has in modern times been considered a preservative against witchcraft, and in the Highlands of Scotland is very frequently seen planted near houses and villages for the purpose of keeping off evil spirits. Lightfoot observes that it is probable this tree was in high esteem among the Druids, as it may to this day be observed to grow more frequently than any other in the vicinity of those Druidical circles or stones so often seen in the north of Britain. The superstitions still continue to retain a great veneration for it, which was undoubtedly handed down to them from early antiquity. They believe that any small part of this tree carried about them will prove a sovereign charm against all the dire effects of enchantment and witchcraft. Their cattle also, as well as themselves, are supposed to be preserved by it from evil. The same superstitions exist also in India, only the tree, according to Bishop Heber, is a mimosa, with leaves much resembling those of the mountain ash. The rowan-tree will grow in any soil and the most exposed situations, and is hence an excellent tree for plantations intended to resist the sea breeze; but, to attain its full growth, it requires a free soil and a moist climate. The flowers, bark, and root of this tree are said to contain so much of the peculiar essential oil of almonds as to yield fully as much hydrocyanic

acid as is procurable from an equal weight of cherry-laurel leaves. The berries contain an abundance of malic acid.

The Meadow Saffron, or Colchicum—called also Naked Lady, from the circumstance of its flowers growing up without the leaves—is indigenous in moist meadows in many parts of the country. Its underground stem is a corm, and this sends up its pale purple flowers in succession in September. These flowers are very similar in appearance to a purple crocus, but are quite without foliage. They consist of a perianth of six deeply-divided and nearly equal segments, united to the neck of the corolla, which forms a long tube reaching down to the bulb, where the seed-vessel is seated. When the flower decays the fruit continues to grow on under ground until spring, when it is thrust forth with the leaves, which are obtusely and elongately lance-shaped, and disappear again before the flowers are produced. The flowers have six stamens and three styles, unlike the crocus, which has three stamens and one style, so that they need not be mistaken the one for the other. The plant has been much used in this country in alleviating the pain and diminishing the paroxysms of gout, over which, and rheumatism, it seems to possess almost a specific control. It is, however, highly poisonous, and can only be safely administered by skilled persons. The corolla of this plant is sent out of the earth with its parts of fructification at a season when there is only time for the maturation of the anthers, in order that the stigmas may receive and convey their fertilising particles to the numerous embryo seed-shells that are prepared to receive them in the three-lobed capsule. As the season of the year would not allow the fruit of this late-flowering plant to ripen so as to multiply its kind, Providence has so contrived its structure that the hidden processes may go on at a depth within the earth out of the reach of frost; and, as seeds at such a depth would not vegetate or become dispersed, provision is made to raise them when they are perfect, and to sow them at a proper season, for which purpose the seed-vessels are lodged in the bosom of the embryo leaves, and are thrust up with them in spring. By the end of May they are generally ripe; the leaves then wither, the corm decays, having finished its duties by giving birth and nourishment to a new corm, which takes its rise from the stem at the base of the flower-tube. It is then that the corm possesses the most powerful medicinal properties. Besides its medicinal interest the meadow saffron is a very pretty border flower. It has been suggested that they have the best effect when planted so as to spring out of a surface of turf, the naked appearance of the flower not being then so conspicuous, and doubtless this is so; but they are very pretty in patches here and there in the borders. The bulbs may be planted any time between May, when their leaves decay, and the beginning of August, and do not require when once planted to be again disturbed. They should be put four or six inches under the surface. There are several varieties: light and dark purple, white, double-flowered and chequered-flowered—the latter a species from the East, often blossoming in November. The meadow saffron belongs to a group of plants called Melanthaceæ.

The Dahlia is recognised as the king of autumnal flowers. It was introduced in 1789, from Mexico; the kinds known then, and for some time after, being either single-rayed or with a slight tendency only towards duplication, as shown in the old-fashioned dahlia represented in the engraving. The flower is now totally altered, being increased in size, rendered full double, and formed with the utmost symmetry. Of such as these many hundred varieties have been produced through the persevering labours of the florists; few of them continuing in repute for more than a season or two, when they are cast aside for more perfect flowers. The dahlia is one of those flowers to which the terms single and double are not properly applicable, though they are generally employed, and are here adopted because they are better understood than any technical term. The flowers in the original, or, as it is called; the single, state are even then compound, every one of the large petal-like bodies round the circumference being a separate flower, and properly called a floret; so also every one of the smaller yellow tubular bodies forming the central mass are separate flowers or florets. What takes place in the so-called double dahlias is the conversion of these short yellow-disc florets into petal-like florets; and, when this change is complete, the result is a close convex mass of the latter. The form of these petal-like bodies has also been modified by the agency of the florist. When first known the ray florets of dahlias were oblong, pointed bodies of considerable length; and it is evident that no association of these could produce the compact, symmetrical outline which it was the florist's aim to secure, and which has at length rewarded his perseverance. At first the mere rounding of the points of the florets was obtained; but this was made a step to further improvements, the new varieties obtained year after year being always raised from those which showed the greatest advances towards ideal perfection. The shortening of the florets followed; then the cupping; and, gradually, a reduction of their size and augmentation of the numbers on a given area. Thus resulted the dense, semiglobular masses of florets disposed with the greatest regularity and symmetry that are characteristic of a first-rate dahlia of the present day. These refinements, indeed, go further than is necessary in the case of flowers required merely as decorations to the flower garden; but the florist's successes have no doubt added greatly to the richness and beauty of even the commoner varieties. It is a peculiarity inherent in this plant to vary greatly in colour; and thus we have nearly every shade of colour represented except blue; and some beautifully variegated sorts—light grounds with darker markings, and dark flowers with light markings, striped flowers, tipped flowers, and blotched flowers in every possible variety. The dahlia has a tuberous root, which it is necessary to take up in autumn, and preserve from frost in winter. This is planted out again in April, and produces new stems for flowering in the autumn. The stems vary in height in the different kinds from two to six feet high; they form hollow tubes, with transverse divisions at the joints where the opposite large, deeply-lobed leaves are produced. The flowers are stalked, but in some the stalks are short, and the flowers remain hidden among the leaves; in others they are long, and the flowers stand out boldly; those of the latter habit, and of bright rich colours, should be chosen for ornamenting the garden. They are appropriate at the back part of broad borders of flowers, in borders skirting shrubberies, and in groups (not too large) on the lawn. They require rich light soil. The choicer kinds are increased by cuttings, the old roots being put in a warm place in February or March, and the young shoots, cut close off when three or four inches long, planted as cuttings, and kept in a hotbed till rooted. The single objection to the dahlia as a garden flower is that it has, both in the leaves and flower, a strong smell which is not at all agreeable. It represents the composite group of plants—that in which the upper flower consists in reality of a head of numerous flowers of peculiar structure.



THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

SEPTEMBER.

THE SUN is north of the Equator and in the sign of Virgo until 8h. 25m. A.M. of the 23rd, when it passes into that of Libra, and is south of the Equator, and the autumn quarter commences.

The MOON is near Jupiter on the 1st, near Saturn on the 4th, near Mercury on the 8th, near Venus on the 11th, near Mars on the 14th, near Uranus on the 27th, and near Jupiter again on the 28th. She is at her shortest distance from the Earth on the 4th, at her greatest distance on the 16th, and again at her shortest distance on the 29th.

New Moon occurs at 15 minutes past 2 on the afternoon of the 7th.
First Quarter " 16 " 5 on the morning of the 15th.
Full Moon " 20 " 3 on the morning of the 23rd.
Last Quarter " 51 " 1 on the morning of the 30th.

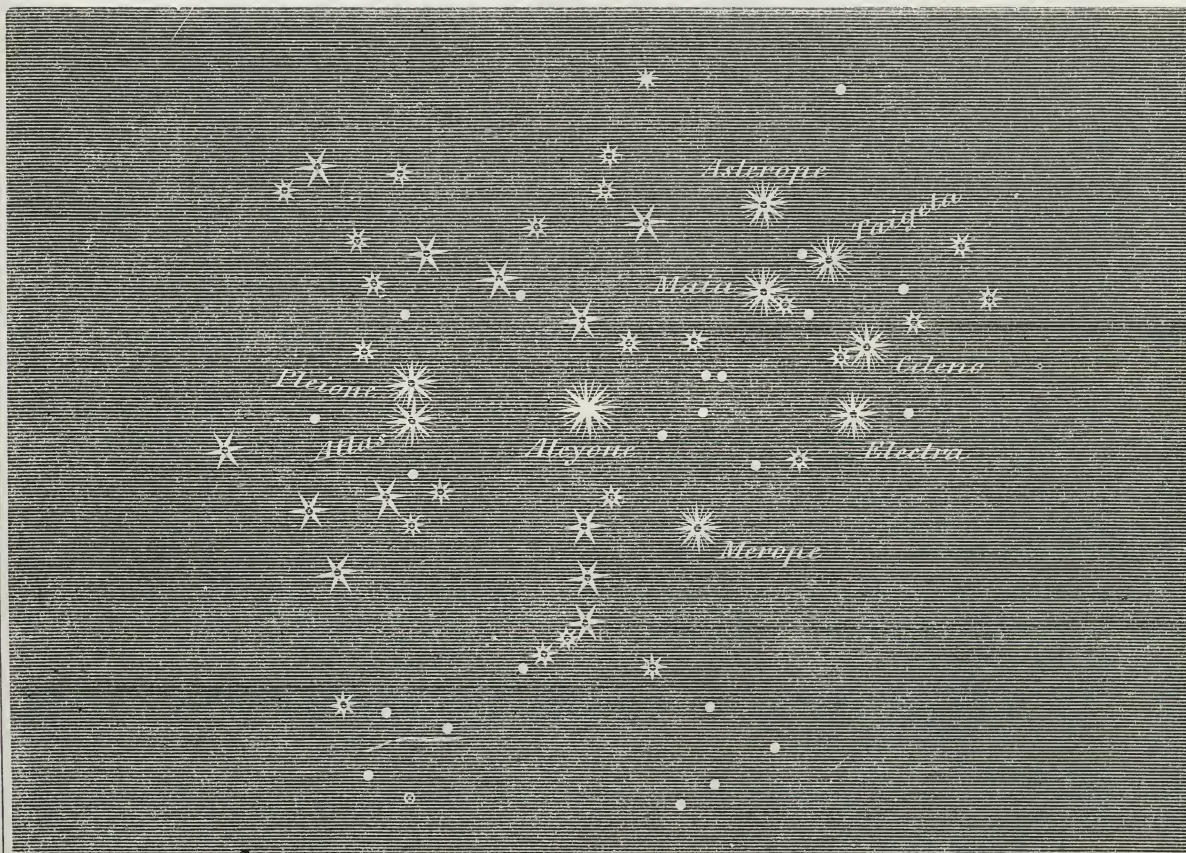
MERCURY is in the constellation of Virgo at the beginning of the month, and in that of Leo at the end of the month. On September 1 it sets at 6h. 57m. P.M. nearly due west, and on September 30 it rises at 4h. 15m. A.M. nearly east, and is a morning star on the latter occasion, and favourably situated for observation. It is near the Moon on the 8th, and arrives at inferior conjunction to the Sun on the 14th, and is at its greatest westerly elongation on the 30th.

Canes Venatici, Corona Borealis make their appearance. The constellation of Ursa Major lies in the N.N.W. In the N.E. are the groups of Cassiopeia, Perseus, Camelopardalus, and Auriga; and in the N.N.E. that of the Lynx. In the S.E. are the constellations of Cetus, Pisces, and in the E. those of Andromeda, Triangulum, and Aries.

TIME OF SOUTHING OF THE PRINCIPAL STARS WHICH PASS THE MERIDIAN BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 15TH OF SEPTEMBER.

Alpha Lyrae	6h. 54m. P.M.	Alpha Capricorni ..	8h. 32m. P.M.
Beta Lyrae	7 7 "	Alpha Cygni ..	8 58 "
Zeta Aquila	7 20 "	Epsilon Pegasi ..	9 59 "
Gamma Aquila ..	8 2 "	Alpha Aquarii ..	10 20 "
Alpha Aquila ..	8 6 "	Fomalhaut ..	11 11 "
Beta Aquila	8 10 "	Alpha Pegasi ..	11 19 "

In brilliancy and richness the cluster of the PLEIADES, which is now a well-known and conspicuous object in the eastern heavens, exceeds all others visible to the naked eye, and, seen in a telescope of moderate dimensions with an extensive field of view, the effect produced by instruments of greater optical power on clusters whose components are to be numbered by thousands, may be readily imagined to be one of great



TELESCOPIC APPEARANCE OF THE PLEIADES.

VENUS is now becoming very favourably situated for observation, and is about half full at the end of the month. It is the evening star, setting at 7h. 54m. P.M. on September 1, and at 6h. 48m. at the end of the month, in the S.W. horizon. It is in the constellation of Virgo at the beginning, and in that of Libra at the end, of the month. It is situated near the Moon on the morning of the 11th, and is most distant from the Sun on the 22nd.

MARS is now badly situated for observation with the unaided eye, setting at 9h. 37m. P.M. in the S.W. at the beginning of the month, and at 8h. 54m. P.M. at the end of the month, and is becoming very faint, both on account of its greater distance from the Earth, and by its being obscured by the mists of the horizon and the twilight. It is in the constellation of Scorpio at the beginning, and in that of Sagittarius at the end, a little to the south and west of Mu Sagittarii. It is near the Moon on the 14th.

JUPITER rises at 9h. 30m. P.M. of the 15th, and at 8h. 34m. P.M. of the 30th, and is nearly south at daybreak. It is becoming favourably situated for observation. It remains in the constellation of Taurus throughout this month. It is near the Moon on the 1st and 28th.

SATURN is in the constellation of Cancer during this month, and will become visible in the mornings in the N.E. and E. On the 15th it rises at 1h. 23m. A.M., and on the 30th at half an hour after midnight. It is near the Moon on the 4th, and near Delta Cancri on the 14th.

At 10h P.M. of the 15th of this month Cepheus is situated between the pole and the zenith. The eastern part of Cygnus and western part of Pegasus, Aquarius, Capricornus, and Pisces Australis are on the meridian. The constellations of Lyra, Vulpecula, Aquila, Ophiuchus, Hercules, are now situated in the W. and S.W. sky. In the N.W. the groups of Boötes,

splendour. But there is no other region of the heavens in which so many large and bright stars are congregated in such a small space as in that of the Pleiades, containing, as it does, within a circle of a degree in radius, one star of the fourth, six of the fifth, five of the sixth, and thirty-two of the seventh magnitude, besides a host of smaller stars, whose united lustre altogether produces a beautiful effect. It has been calculated that the chances are half a million to one against the accidental proximity of only the six brighter stars of the group, and would, of course, be immensely greater against the meeting of such a number of bright stars at this one point. This part of the heavens is equally an object of interest with that of the constellation of Hercules (see June); for, as it is in the direction of the latter that the Sun is rapidly progressing, it is to the former, according to the researches of Maedler, that we are to look for the central point of all that immense cluster of stars situated within the zone of the Milky Way. This has been found by examining the changes in the position of the stars among each other, and the general directions of their motion, as well as by taking into account those parts of the heavens in which the most rapid movements occur. From an examination of those data he has been led to the conclusion that not only the group of the Pleiades is the central group of the entire heavens, but points out Alcyone as the individual star of this group which of all the others combines the strongest probability of being the true central sun, round which all the others move with the same velocity. A similar hypothesis has been made by Sir J. Herschel in reference to other clusters. Observations, however, must be multiplied to a great extent before such a system can be absolutely proved, and will doubtless receive further development, as far as the position of the central point of our own cluster is concerned.

OCTOBER

1858



OCTOBER THIRTY-ONE DAYS.

Day of Month.	Day of Week.	ANNIVERSARIES, FESTIVALS, REMARKABLE EVENTS.	SUN.						MOON.						HIGH WATER AT								PLANETS.													
			Rises at Lon- don.		SOUTH.		SETS at Lon- don.		Rises at Lon- don.	SOUTH.		SETS at Lon- don.	AGE.	LONDON BRIDGE.				LIVERPOOL DOCK				Day of M.	Rise.		South.	Set										
			H.	M.	H.	M.	S.	H.	M.	H.	M.	H.		M.	H.	M.	H.	M.	H.	M.	H.		M.													
																								Morn.			Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.	
1	F	<i>Remigius</i> Pheasant shooting beg.	6	2	11	49	41	5	37	11	44	7	7	3	37	24	7	42	8	29	5	7	5	55	Mercury.	{	1	4 18 M.	10 47 M.	5 15 A.						
2	S	Length of day at London 11h 32m	6	3	11	49	23	5	35	Morn.	8	4	4	1	25	9	17	10	10	6	48	7	35	6				4 30			10 52	5 12				
3	S	18TH S. aft. TRIN.	6	5	11	49	4	5	33	1	11	8	56	4	19	26	10	57	11	37	8	15	8	45				11			4 58	11	2	5		
4	M	Day breaks 4h 13m	6	7	11	48	46	5	30	2	38	9	45	4	33	27	—	0	7	9	10	9	33	16				5 23			11	13	5	1		
5	Tu	Twilight ends 7h 21m	6	9	11	48	28	5	28	4	0	10	31	4	46	28	0	32	0	55	9	55	10	15	21	5 58	11	25	4	51						
6	W	<i>Faith</i>	6	10	11	48	10	5	26	5	20	11	16	4	57	29	1	17	1	37	10	32	10	51	26	6 23	11	36	4	46						
7	Th	Sun rises at Edinburgh 6h 18m	6	12	11	47	53	5	23	6	40	Aftern.	5	10	5	10	1	54	2	13	11	10	11	26	Venus.	{	1	10 45	2 46 A.	6 46						
8	F	Sun sets at Edinburgh 5h 13m	6	13	11	47	36	5	21	8	0	0	47	5	23	1	2	32	2	48	11	44	—	6				10 55			2	47	6	39		
9	S	<i>St. Denys</i>	6	15	11	47	20	5	19	9	18	1	35	5	41	2	3	6	3	23	0	1	0	17				11			11	6	2	47	6	28
10	S	19TH S. aft. TRIN.	6	17	11	47	4	5	17	10	35	2	24	6	6	3	3	39	3	55	0	33	0	50				16			11	13	2	47	6	21
11	M	Sun rises at Dublin 6h 21m	6	18	11	46	49	5	14	11	48	3	15	6	38	4	4	12	4	28	1	6	1	22	21	11	20	2	46	6	12					
12	Tu	Sun sets at Dublin 5h 6m	6	20	11	46	34	5	12	Aftern.	4	6	7	22	5	4	4	44	5	2	1	40	1	58	26	11	22	2	44	6	6					
13	W	Fire Insur. due	6	22	11	46	19	5	10	1	41	4	58	8	17	6	5	20	5	40	2	18	2	37	Mars.	{	1	1 42 A.	5 18	8 54						
14	Th	[Tr. K. Edw. Conf.]	6	24	11	46	6	5	8	2	19	5	48	9	24	7	5	59	6	24	3	2	3	28				6			1 37	5	13	8	49	
15	F	Day breaks 4h 32m	6	26	11	45	52	5	6	2	46	6	37	10	36	8	6	50	7	22	4	0	4	39				11			1 31	5	9	8	47	
16	S	Twilight ends 6h 57m	6	27	11	45	39	5	4	3	6	7	23	11	50	9	8	1	8	46	5	24	6	11				16			1 24	5	4	8	44	
17	S	20TH S. aft. TRIN.	6	29	11	45	27	5	2	3	22	8	8	Morn.	10	9	9	33	10	15	6	53	7	30	21	1 17	5	0	8	43						
18	M	<i>St. Luke</i>	6	30	11	45	15	4	59	3	35	8	51	1	6	11	10	52	11	26	8	4	8	32	26	1 9	4	56	8	43						
19	Tu	Length of day at Dublin 10h 14m	6	32	11	45	4	4	57	3	47	9	35	2	23	12	1	54	—	8	54	9	13	Jupiter.	{	1	8 32	4 45 M.	0 54							
20	W	Sun rises at Edinburgh 6h 47m	6	34	11	44	54	4	55	3	59	10	19	3	39	13	0	16	0	35	9	32	9				51			6	8 11	4	25	0	36	
21	Th	Sun sets at Edinburgh 4h 41m	6	36	11	44	44	4	53	4	11	11	6	5	0	14	0	54	1	13	10	8	10				26			11	7 53	4	6	0	15	
22	F	Sun rises at Dublin 6h 43m	6	37	11	44	35	4	51	4	26	11	57	6	22	15	1	30	1	48	10	41	10				59			16	7 31	3	46	11	57 M.	
23	S	Sun sets at Dublin 4h 43m	6	39	11	44	26	4	49	4	45	Morn.	7	49	16	2	3	2	21	11	18	11	37	Saturn.	{	1	0 30 M.	8 11	3 53 A.							
24	S	21st S. aft. TRIN.	6	41	11	44	18	4	47	5	14	0	52	7	19	17	2	40	2	59	11	57	—				6			0 13	7	53	—	3	33	
25	M	<i>St. Crispin</i>	6	43	11	44	11	4	45	5	53	1	52	10	47	18	3	19	3	38	0	16	0				37			11	11	52 A.	7	35	3	17
26	Tu	Length of day at Dublin 9h 47m	6	44	11	44	5	4	43	6	51	2	55	Aftern.	19	3	59	4	20	0	58	1	20				16			11	34	7	16	2	55	
27	W	Length of day at Edinburgh 9h 29m	6	46	11	43	59	4	41	8	6	3	59	1	0	20	4	42	5	5	1	43	2	9	21	11	15	6	58	2	37					
28	Th	<i>St. Sim. & St. Jude</i>	6	48	11	43	54	4	39	9	33	5	1	1	39	21	5	31	5	59	2	37	3	6	Uranus.	{	1	7 25	8 27	11 24 M.						
29	F	Day breaks 4h 56m	6	50	11	43	50	4	37	10	59	6	0	2	7	2	6	28	7	3	3	41	4	21				6			7 6	3	7	11	4	
30	S	Twilight ends 6h 31m	6	51	11	43	47	4	35	Morn.	6	53	2	25	23	7	43	8	28	5	6	5	50	16				6			45	2	47	10	44	
31	S	22ND S. aft. TRIN.	6	53	11	43	44	4	33	0	24	7	42	2	41	24	9	12	9	56	6	34	7	14				21			6	4	2	6	10	3



THE 93RD HIGHLANDERS.—FROM THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

STAMP AND OTHER GOVERNMENT DUTIES (Continued.)

DRAFT OR ORDERS ON DEMAND.

(See Receipts, on preceding page, as to adhesive Stamps.)

Draft or Order for the payment of any sum of money to the bearers, or to order, on demand, one penny.

Exemptions.—All cheques, drafts, or orders for the payment of money to the bearer on demand, drawn upon any banker, and is used within 15 miles of the bank upon which they are drawn. All letters of credit to persons abroad, authorising drafts on the United Kingdom. Such cheques, drafts, or orders, must (under a penalty of £50) be stamped with a penny stamp, if remitted, sent or circulated, beyond the 15 miles.

BONDS AND MORTGAGES.

Not exceeding £50	1s. 3d.	Exceed. £150 and not exc. £200	5s. 0d.
Exceed. £50 and not exceed. 100	2 6	" 200	250 6 3
" 100	150 3 9	" 250	300 7 6

And where the same shall exceed £300, then for every £100, and also or any fractional part of £100, 2s. 6d.

And where any such bond or mortgage shall contain 2160 words or upwards, then for every entire quantity of 1080 words contained therein over and above the first 1080 words there shall be charged the further progressive duty following: viz. where such bond or mortgage shall be chargeable with any *ad valorem* stamp duty, not exceeding 10s., a further progressive duty equal to the amount of such *ad valorem* duty or duties. And in every other case, a further progressive duty of 10s. See, as to Inland Revenue Bonds, the 18th and 19th Vic., c. 78, s. 6.

LICENSES.

For Marriage, if special	5 0	For Appraisers	2 5
Ditto, if not special	0 10	Stage Carriage License, for every carriage	3 3
For Bankers	30 0	Hackney Carriage License, for every carriage, yearly duty	1 0
For Pawnbrokers, within the limits of the twopenny post	15 0	Ditto weekly duty, including Sunday	0 7
Ditto, Elsewhere	7 10	Ditto, ditto, excepting Sunday	0 6
Ditto, within the City of Dublin, and Circular Road	7 10	Selling Beer, to be drunk on the Premises	3 3
For Hawkers and Pedlars, on foot	4 0	Ditto, not to be drunk on the Premises	1 1
Ditto, with one horse, ass, or mule	8 0		

PATENTS FOR INVENTIONS.—STAMP DUTIES ON.

On petition for grant of letters-patent	£5 0 0
On certificate of record of notice to proceed	5 0 0
On warrant of law officer for letters patent	5 0 0
On the sealing of letters-patent	5 0 0
On specification	5 0 0
On the letters-patent, or a duplicate thereof, before the expiration of the third year	50 0 0
On the letters-patent, or a duplicate thereof, before the expiration of the seventh year	100 0 0
On certificate of record of notice of objections	2 0 0
On certificate of every search and inspection	0 1 0
On certificate of entry of assignment or licences	0 5 0
On certificate of assignment or licence	0 5 0
On application for disclaimer	5 0 0
On caveat against disclaimer	2 0 0
On office copies of documents, for every ninety words	0 0 2

PROPERTY AND INCOME TAX.

By the Act the 16 and 17 Vic., cap. 34, which took effect from the 5th of April, 1853, all incomes beginning at £100 a year were to be taxed at 5d. in the pound. For the first two years the tax would be on incomes of £150—7d. in the pound; for the next two years 6d. in the pound; and for the last three years 5d. in the pound. This Act is to remain in force to the 6th of April, 1860. The Acts the 17 and 18 Vic., cap. 24, have raised the tax, from the 5th of April, 1855, to 1s. 4d. in the pound, with a proportionate deduction as to the abatements allowed by the prior Act. The increased duty is to continue in force until the 6th of April after a year from the ratification of peace.

EXEMPTION OF PREMIUMS FROM INCOME TAX.—Under a recent Act of Parliament the Premiums paid by a person for an Assurance on his own life or on the life of his wife, or for a Deferred Annuity to his Widow, are declared free from Income-tax, provided such Premiums do not exceed one-sixth of his returnable Income.

EXEMPTION OF POLICIES FROM THE SUCCESSION DUTY.—By the recent Act it is declared that no Policy of Insurance on the life of any person shall create the Relation of Predecessor and Successor, between the Insurers and the Assured, or between the Insurers and any Assignee of the Assured.

SUCCESSION-DUTY.

The Succession Duty Act grants the following duties to her Majesty, and they are to be considered as stamp duties:—Where the succession shall be the lineal issue or lineal ancestor of the predecessor, a duty at the rate of £1 per centum upon such value; where the succession shall be a brother or sister, or a descendant of a brother or sister of the predecessor, a duty at the rate of £3 per centum upon such value; where the succession shall be a brother or sister of the father or mother, or a descendant of a brother or sister of the father or mother of the predecessor, a duty at the rate of £5 per centum upon such value; where the succession shall be a brother or sister of the grandfather or grandmother, or a descendant of the brother or sister of the grandfather or grandmother of the predecessor, a duty at the rate of £6 per centum upon such value; and where the succession shall be in any other degree of collateral consanguinity to the predecessor than is described, or shall be described, or shall be a stranger in blood to him, a duty at the rate of £10 per centum upon such value. There is an interpretation clause of the terms, &c., used in the act. The term "personal property" is not to include leaseholds, but shall include money; and the term "property" is to include real and personal property, real states, and all other property.

DUTIES PAYABLE ON INHABITED HOUSES OF THE ANNUAL VALUE OF £20, OR UPWARDS.

The duty is 6d. in the pound in respect of dwelling-houses occupied by any person in trade who shall expose to sale and sell any goods in any shop or warehouse, being part of the same dwelling-house, and in front and on the ground or basement story thereof; or by a person licensed to sell therein, by retail, beer, &c.; or as a farm-house by a tenant, or farm servant, and *bond fide* used for the purpose of husbandry only.—The duty is 9d. in the pound for dwelling-houses not occupied and used for any of the purposes described in the preceding

MALE SERVANTS.

For every servant above 18 years of age, annually	£1 1 0
Ditto under 18 years of age	0 10 6

ARMORIAL BEARINGS.

When chargeable to carriage duty at £3 10s. (annually)	£2 12 9
When not so chargeable	0 13 2

DOGS.

For every dog of whatever description or denomination	£0 12 0
Provided always, that no person shall be chargeable with duty to any greater amount than £39 12s. for any number of hounds, or £9 for any number of greyhounds, kept by him in any year.	

EXEMPTIONS.—Any person in respect of any dog *bond fide* and wholly kept and used in the care of sheep or cattle, or in driving or removing the same; provided no such dog shall be a greyhound, hound, pointer, setting dog, spaniel, lurcher, or terrier.

HORSES LET TO HIRE.

(Omnibuses and Cabs excepted.)

Where the person taking out the license shall keep at one and the same time to let for hire one horse or one carriage only	£ 7 10 0
Where such person shall keep any greater number of horses or carriages, not exceeding two horses or two carriages	12 10 0
Not exceeding four horses or three carriages	20 0 0
Not exceeding eight horses or six carriages	30 0 0
Not exceeding twelve horses or nine carriages	40 0 0
Not exceeding sixteen horses or twelve carriages	50 0 0
Not exceeding twenty horses or fifteen carriages	60 0 0
Exceeding fifteen carriages	70 0 0
Exceeding twenty horses, then for every additional number of ten horses, and for any additional number less than ten over and above twenty, the further additional duty of	10 0 0

DUTIES ON HORSES AND MULES.

For every horse kept or used for racing	£ 3 17 0
For every other horse, and for every mule, exceeding respectively the height of thirteen hands of four inches to each hand, kept for the purpose of riding, or drawing any carriage chargeable with duty	1 1 0
For every horse and mule exceeding the height of thirteen hands, kept for any other purpose	0 10 6
For every pony or mule not exceeding the height of thirteen hands, kept for the purpose of riding, or drawing any carriage chargeable with duty	0 10 6
And for every pony or mule kept for any other purpose	0 5 3

EXEMPTIONS.—Any horses or mules kept solely for the purposes of trade or husbandry.

DUTIES ON CARRIAGES.

For every carriage with four wheels, where drawn by two or more horses or mules	£ 3 10 0
Where drawn by one horse or mule only	2 0 0
For every carriage with four wheels, each being of less diameter than thirty inches, where drawn by two or more ponies or mules, neither of them exceeding thirteen hands in height	1 15 0
Where drawn by one such pony or mule only	1 0 0
For every carriage with less than four wheels, where drawn by two or more horses or mules	2 0 0
Where drawn by one horse or mule only	0 15 0
Where drawn by one pony or mule only not exceeding thirteen hands in height	0 10 0
Carriages kept and used solely for the purpose of being let for hire, one half of the above-mentioned duties respectively.	
For any carriage with four wheels used by any common carrier	2 6 8
And where the same shall have less than four wheels	1 6 8

EXEMPTIONS.—Any wagon, van, cart, or other carriage, to be used solely in the course of trade or husbandry.

STAGE CARRIAGES.

As altered by the 18th and 19th Vic., c. 78. From 1st July, 1855.

Original yearly licence for	£3 3 0
Supplementary licence for	0 1 0
Duty per mile	0 0 1

No compounding for those duties is henceforward allowable.

HACKNEY CARRIAGES.—(CABS).

FARES BY DISTANCE.—Carriages drawn by one horse.—For any distance within and not exceeding one mile, 6d.; for any distance exceeding one mile, 6d. for every mile, and for any part of a mile over and above any number of miles, completed within a circumference of four miles from Charing Cross. 1s. per mile for every mile or part of a mile beyond the four mile circumference when discharged beyond that circumference.

FARE BY TIME.—2s. for any time not exceeding one hour; 6d. for every fifteen minutes over the hour.

For every hackney carriage drawn by two horses one-third above the rates and fares hereinbefore mentioned.

The fares to be paid according to distance or time, at the option of the hirer, to be expressed at the commencement of the hiring; if not otherwise expressed, the fare to be paid according to distance.

No driver shall be compellable to hire his carriage for a fare to be paid according to time between eight o'clock in the evening and six in the morning.

When more than two persons shall be carried inside any hackney carriage, 6d. is to be paid for each person above two for the whole hiring, in addition to the above fares. Two children under ten years of age to be counted as one adult person.

When more than two persons shall be carried inside any hackney carriage with more luggage than can be carried inside the carriage, a further sum of 2s. for every package carried outside the said carriage is to be paid by the hirer in addition to the above fares.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

OCTOBER.

THE SUN is south of the Equator during the month, and remains in the sign of Libra until 4h. 42m. P.M. of the 23rd, when it passes into that of Scorpio.

The Moon is near Saturn on the morning of the 2nd, near Mercury on the 5th, near Venus on the 10th, near Mars on the 13th, near Uranus on the 24th, near Jupiter on the morning of the 26th, and again near Saturn on the 29th. It is at its greatest distance from the Earth on the 13th, and at its least distance on the 25th.

New Moon occurs at 7 minutes past 2 on the morning of the 7th.
First Quarter " 42 " midnight on the 14th.
Full Moon " 19 " 3 on the afternoon of the 22nd.
Last Quarter " 33 " 8 on the morning of the 29th.

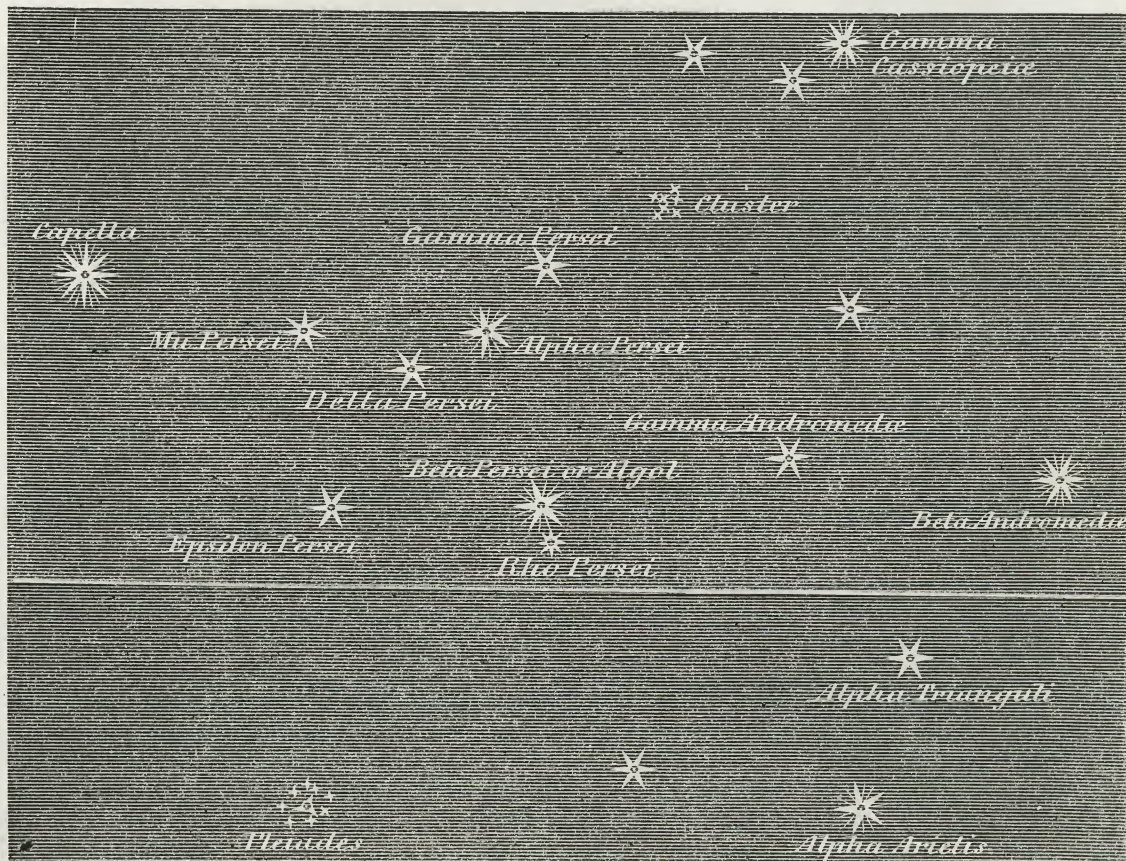
MERCURY is favourably situated for observation at the beginning of the month, rising at 4h. 18m. A.M. nearly due east, but is invisible at the latter end of the month, coming into superior conjunction to the Sun on the morning of the 30th. It is situated near the Moon on the 5th. It is in the constellation of Leo at the beginning, and in that of Libra at the end, of October.

In the S.W. are the constellations of Capricornus, Aquila, Delphinus, and Equuleus, and to the W. of the zenith Cepheus, Cygnus, and Lyra. In the N.W. are the constellations of Hercules, Corona Borealis, and a few of the stars of Boötes appear above the horizon. The middle stars of the Plough are nearly direct N. Cetus appears above the S.E. horizon. Below and to the E. of Andromeda appear the constellations of Triangulum and Perseus, whilst Taurus and a few of the stars of Orion appear above the N.E. and E. horizon. The constellation of Camelopardalus, Lynx, and Auriga appear in the N.E.

TIME OF SOUTHING OF THE PRINCIPAL STARS WHICH PASS THE MERIDIAN BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 15TH OF OCTOBER.

Alpha Cygni ..	7h. 0m. P.M.	Fomalhaut ..	9h. 13m. P.M.
Alpha Cephei ..	7 33 "	Alpha Pegasi ..	9 21 "
Beta Aquarii ..	7 47 "	Alpha Andromedæ ..	10 24 "
Epsilon Pegasi ..	8 0 "	Beta Ceti ..	10 59 "
Alpha Aquarii ..	8 21 "	Pole Star ..	11 30 "

The well-known star ALGOL, which is now visible during the whole night, is remarkable for its rapid changes of lustre, which occur in regular order in two days twenty hours and forty-nine minutes, but its



VARIABLE STAR BETA PERSEI, AND THE NEIGHBOURING STARS.

VENUS shines with great brilliancy during this month, but is much obscured by the mists of the horizon, and sets shortly after the Sun in the northern hemisphere. It is situated in the constellation of Scorpio at the beginning, and in that of Ophiuchus at the end, of the month. It is at its greatest easterly elongation from the Sun on the evening of the 3rd. It is near the Moon on the 10th, near Sigma Scorpæ on the 12th, and close to Alpha Scorpæ on the 16th, when its white and brilliant lustre is in great contrast with the latter object.

MARS is situated near Lambda Sagittarii on the afternoon of the 5th, and is a little to the east of that star on the night of the 10th. It is near the Moon on the 13th, and arrives at perihelion on the 30th. It remains in the constellation of Sagittarius throughout the month. It sets at 8h. 45m. P.M. in the S.W. horizon on the 15th of October, and is badly situated for observation.

JUPITER rises at 7h. 36m. P.M. of the 15th in the N.E., and is becoming brighter. It is the brightest object in the eastern sky at midnight, and remains almost stationary in the constellation of Taurus throughout the month. It is near the Moon on the morning of the 26th. On the 31st it rises at 6h. 30m. P.M.

SATURN remains in the constellation of Cancer throughout this month, and rises at 11h. 36m. P.M. of the 15th in the N.E., and at 10h. 40m. P.M. of the 31st. During the dark nights and mornings it is a very conspicuous object in the above constellation, which is not very rich in bright stars. Saturn is near the Moon on the morning of the 2nd, and again on the evening of the 29th.

At 10h. P.M. on the 15th of this month the bright stars and fine constellation of Cassiopeia are near the zenith, and the constellations of Andromeda, Pegasus, Pisces, and Aquarius are to the S. of the zenith.

greatest changes in lustre take place within a few hours. The variation of its brightness is from that of a star of the 2^d magnitude to that of one of the fourth, and was first detected by Montenari in 1669, but the period was first found by Goodricke in 1782. The increase and decrease in its light are very singular: remaining for two days thirteen hours at its greatest brightness, and it only appears as a star of the fourth magnitude for the short space of seven or eight hours, its light becoming rapidly more dim as it approaches its minimum, and, after having increased in brightness for about an hour, it remains at the same degree of lustre for the same space of time, and then begins once more to increase perceptibly. It further shows the remarkable property of being variable as to period, the time which elapses between two periods of minimum brightness being shorter than in 1782, although only by a few seconds, which may be accounted for by the not improbable approach of the star to the Sun. There are numerous stars in the neighbourhood with which its lustre may be compared, both at its maximum and minimum, some of which are given in the above diagram, viz.—those of Rho Persei and Alpha Trianguli at its epoch of least brightness; and Epsilon, Gamma, and Delta Persei, at its period of change.

The constellation of Perseus presents many other interesting objects to the telescopic observer. The star Epsilon Persei is a pretty double star, the larger star being white, the smaller blue. Mu Persei is also a double star, and the colours are very decided—that of the larger being red, and the smaller a dark blue. The star Gamma Andromedæ is situated not far off, and the colours are here very brilliant, and in strong contrast. In the sword-handle of Perseus, between Alpha Persei and Gamma Cassiopeia, one of the few clusters visible to the naked eye are situated, which discloses to the telescope hundreds of bright stars.

NOVEMBER

1858



NOVEMBER THIRTY DAYS.

Day of Month.	Day of Week.	ANNIVERSARIES, FESTIVALS, REMARKABLE EVENTS.	SUN.				MOON.				HIGH WATER AT				PLANETS.			
			Rises at London.		SETS at London.		Rises at London.		SETS at London.		LONDON BRIDGE.		LIVERPOOL DOCK.		Day of M.	Rise.		Set.
			H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.		H. M.	H. M.	
1	M	All Saints	6 55	11 43	42 4 32	1 45	8 28	2 53	25	10 36	11 11	7 49	8 19	Mercury.	1	6 59	11 50	4 39 A
2	Tu	All Souls. Michaelmas T. begins.	6 57	11 43	42 4 30	3 5	9 13	3 5	26	11 41	—	8 43	9 7		6	7 31	0 1 A	4 29
3	W	Day breaks 5h 3m	6 59	11 43	41 4 28	4 22	9 57	3 17	27	0 5	0 29	9 29	9 50		11	7 59	0 13	4 26
4	Th	Twilight ends 6h 22m	7 0	11 43	42 4 26	5 41	10 41	3 30	28	0 51	1 12	10 7	10 27		16	8 23	0 25	4 25
5	F	Bat. Inkerm. 1854	7 2	11 43	44 4 24	6 59	11 28	3 46	29	1 29	1 49	11 44	11 3		21	8 49	0 38	4 26
6	S	St. Leonard	7 4	11 43	46 4 23	8 16	Aftern.	4 8	1	2 6	2 25	11 20	11 37	Venus.	26	9 10	0 51	4 32
7	S	23 RDS. aft. TRIN.	7 4	11 43	49 4 21	9 30	1 6	4 37	2	2 42	2 59	11 56	—		1	11 20	2 39	5 58
8	M	Length of day at London 9h 12m	7 8	11 43	54 4 20	10 38	1 58	5 16	3	3 18	3 32	0 10	0 28		6	11 15	2 33	5 51
9	Tu	Pr. Wales b., 1841	7 9	11 43	58 4 18	11 33	2 50	6 8	4	3 50	4 7	0 45	1 1		11	11 7	2 24	5 42
10	W	Length of day at Dublin 8h 49m	7 10	11 44	4 4 16	Aftern.	3 41	7 10	5	4 23	4 41	1 19	1 37		16	10 52	2 13	5 32
11	Th	St. Martin	7 12	11 44	11 4 15	0 47	4 30	8 20	6	4 59	5 18	1 56	2 16	Mars.	21	10 32	1 57	5 21
12	F	Cam. Term div.	7 14	11 44	18 4 14	1 10	5 16	9 33	7	5 38	5 59	2 37	3 2		26	10 8	1 37	5 6
13	S	Britius	7 16	11 44	26 4 12	1 27	6 1	10 47	D	6 24	6 51	3 29	3 56		1	0 59 A	4 51	8 43
14	S	24 TH S. aft. TRIN.	7 18	11 44	35 4 11	1 40	6 44	Morn.	9	7 18	7 54	4 32	5 14		6	0 51	4 47	8 43
15	M	St. Machutus	7 20	11 44	45 4 9	1 52	7 26	0 11	10	8 36	9 13	5 51	6 26		11	0 42	4 43	8 44
16	Tu	Length of day at Edinburgh 8h 3m	7 21	11 44	56 4 8	2 4	8 9	1 15	11	9 48	10 21	6 59	7 30	Jupiter.	16	0 32	4 39	8 46
17	W	Hugh, Bp. of Linc.	7 23	11 45	8 4 6	2 15	8 54	2 31	12	10 52	11 20	7 58	8 24		21	0 22	4 35	8 49
18	Th	Sun rises at Dublin 7h 34m	7 25	11 45	20 4 5	2 29	9 42	3 52	13	11 46	—	8 46	9 7		26	0 10	4 30	8 50
19	F	Sun sets at Dublin 3h 51m	7 27	11 45	33 4 4	2 47	10 35	5 17	14	0 8	0 29	9 29	9 53		1	6 27	2 40 M	10 49 M
20	S	Edmd. K. & Mar	7 28	11 45	47 4 3	3 11	11 34	6 47	15	0 51	1 15	10 13	10 35		6	6 4	2 19	10 29
21	S	25 TH S. aft. TRIN.	7 30	11 46	2 4 2	3 46	Morn.	8 18	O	1 35	1 57	10 56	11 18	Saturn.	11	5 43	1 57	10 6
22	M	St. Cecilia	7 32	11 46	18 4 1	4 38	0 38	9 41	17	2 18	2 40	11 39	—		16	5 23	1 35	9 44
23	Tu	Clement	7 33	11 46	34 4 0	5 48	1 44	10 49	18	3 1	3 25	0 3	0 26		21	5 0	1 13	9 21
24	W	Day breaks at 5h 33m	7 35	11 46	51 3 59	7 14	2 50	11 37	19	3 48	4 15	0 53	1 16		26	4 37	0 50	8 59
25	Th	Michaelmas T. e.	7 36	11 47	9 3 58	8 44	3 52	Aftern.	20	4 38	5 7	1 45	2 9	Uranus.	1	10 34	6 17	1 55 A
26	F	Sun rises at Edinburgh 8h 2m	7 38	11 47	28 3 57	10 12	4 48	0 31	21	5 31	6 1	2 39	3 7		6	10 16	5 58	1 36
27	S	Sun sets at Edinburgh 3h 31m	7 40	11 47	47 3 56	11 35	5 40	0 47	C	6 29	6 58	3 36	4 10		11	9 57	5 39	1 17
28	S	1st S. in ADVENT	7 41	11 48	8 3 55	Morn.	6 27	1 12	23	7 32	8 5	4 43	5 21		16	9 37	5 20	0 58
29	M	Twilight ends 5h 57m	7 43	11 48	29 3 54	0 55	7 12	1 12	24	8 43	9 18	5 56	6 30		21	9 18	5 0	0 38
30	Tu	St. Andrew	7 44	11 48	50 3 53	2 12	7 55	1 24	25	9 52	10 23	7 1	7 36		26	8 58	4 41	0 20



"THE DEAD RABBIT." PAINTED BY J. CL/ RK.—FROM THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."

POPULAR FLOWERS OF THE SEASONS.

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER.

THE Chrysanthemum (*Pyrethrum sinense*), which is the principal ornament of our gardens during the dreary late autumnal months, was obtained originally from China about 1764, and, subsequently, in 1725, since which time, in the hands of our enthusiastic florists, it has yielded so many beautiful and varied and long-enduring kinds that winter can scarcely be said to assert its sway over our parterres until after the year has reached the last stage of its journey. Even at the date when first introduced to Europe the Chinese were known to cultivate numerous varieties of chrysanthemum, and from its frequent occurrence in their paintings, where it is often represented as growing in ornamental vases, we may conclude that it has been long held in high esteem by that remarkable people. It appears also to be in equal favour in the empire of Japan, the beautiful flower of the chrysanthemum being often displayed on the lackered war for which the Japanese are so highly famed. It is within the last quarter of a century that the chrysanthemum has attracted the marked attention of the florists; previous to that time the imported kinds only, of which, however, there were several of various colours, were the only sorts cultivated; but now these are quite discarded, and new kinds, much more ornamental in character, have taken their places. Another revolution, which may be traced up to the influence of Fortune, the traveller, took place in the ranks of this flower but a few years since. When in Chusan Mr. Fortune procured and sent to England plants of a peculiar dwarf, compact-growing variety, called the Chusan daisy, which bore small and insignificant flowers, not much larger than a common daisy. With this, however, the florists set to work in earnest, and some produced several varieties of similar habit, very dwarf, compact, and free-blooming; the flowers from one inch to one inch and a half each in diameter, and quite double. These dwarfs are now known as the pom-pone varieties, and are numerous and very beautiful.

The chrysanthemum is a herbaceous perennial of a subshrubby tendency. Ordinarily its flowering stems are either killed or damaged by the winter's frost, and are cut away, numerous young stems issuing from the root taking their place; and this is what ought to be done when the plant is under cultivation, if only for the sake of neatness. These stems in the different sorts vary from a couple of feet to four or five feet in height, the upper part of which becomes loaded with flowering branches, and the lower clothed with greyish-green leaves, deeply cut at the sides, and varying a good deal in the form of their divisions. The greyish colour is due to the presence of a thin coating of cottony hairs which covers the surface. The flowers are, like the dahlia, of the composite kind. Thus, what is usually called a flower is in fact a flower-head, containing a very large number of individually not very attractive flowers. These are called florets, and, when the so-called flower is double, the whole head consists of florets which are more or less altered from the condition of the original kind. Sometimes all the florets become ligulate, like the ray in the daisy-flower, and then results a "double flower," with the form of the common double china aster. In some there are no ligulate florets, but tubular florets (as seen in the centre of a daisy flower) are very much amplified, and occupy the whole head, and this produces the "quilled double flower;" while in other cases the original forms are retained—a row of ligulate florets at the circumference, and a mass of enlarged quilled florets in the centre, and this produces the "double ranunculus-flowered" kinds. All these forms, and several modifications of them, occur among the larger kinds; the first and last chiefly among the pom-pones. The colours now embrace nearly every shade, except blue and bright red. Venetian reds are not uncommon, and there are various two-coloured flowers. The general odour of the chrysanthemum resembles that of the chamomile; but there are a few kinds in which the flowers are agreeably scented. The want of a pleasant pervading odour is, as in the case of the dahlia, the one objection to the chrysanthemum.

Being one of those flowers which succeed in town gardens, and blooming at a season to enliven that which is naturally the dreariest portion of the year, we are tempted to explain something of the mode of culture which should be adopted with the chrysanthemum. As an out-door garden plant it should be planted against the boundary fences, and is admirably suited to assist in covering the monotonous dwarf walls which are the usual boundaries to the slips of town garden. This situation is preferable, because the shelter of the fence, or such shelter as may readily be afforded, very much lengthens the blooming period, by warding off the damaging influences to which the flowers would be exposed. In such cases they must not be smothered during summer by tall plants immediately before them, depriving them of light and air, for from this would result weak growth or immature stems, which would not be capable of bringing good flowers to perfection. The plants are best planted in spring, any time in March or April, in mild genial weather. They are increased readily. For out-door planting the old stems with the clusters of young shoots may be pulled out or cut asunder, retaining with each part a small portion of root, and these planted rather deeply in the earth are soon established plants. Every one of the young shoots, when two or three inches long, planted in the early spring as a cutting, makes an independent plant, but for this purpose a slight artificial warmth is desirable. They may be struck in the window of a warm room, being protected from evaporation by a glass turned over them. These furnish the kind of plants preferable for pot culture. They are to be potted singly, at first in small pots, and then transferred to large ones from time to time during the summer, until the prescribed limit is reached; very good plants may be bloomed in pots six inches in diameter. The soil should be a rich loam, that is, a loamy basis, enriched with a fourth part decayed manure. Any light earth is suitable for the cuttings and earlier stages. When the cuttings first begin to grow up, after they are rooted, the tops are to be taken off to make them branch; again, when the shoots thus produced are two or three inches long their tops should be removed, and the same may be done a third time if desired, the result being a bushy dwarfed plant, producing, if sufficiently fed, a much greater mass of blossoms than would have been borne by the single stem had it been allowed to grow up in its own way. If a few very large individual flowers are wanted, on the contrary, the single stem must be retained and well fed; and even the weaker blossom buds, all beyond the number of flowers desired, removed as soon as they are visible. The pom-pone or dwarf compact sorts do not need so much topping, as they naturally grow in a close bushy form. The plants should not be repotted too late in the season; it is best to keep them growing freely from the first, and to get them into the flowering-pots some time before the period of showing these buds, which is August or September. If, after that

time, they get exhausted from the pots becoming too full of roots, they should be fed by weak and frequent applications of liquid manure, which will have the effect of throwing out the flowers with vigour, and rendering their colours brilliant and effective. The chrysanthemum seems to be an exhaustive plant, sending out a great quantity of fibrous roots, and abstracting a large amount of nutriment from the soil. Hence the earth in which they are planted soon gets impoverished, and they need to be transplanted to fresh positions annually, or else to be manured.

As winter favourites we notice further the Strawberry-tree (*Arbutus Unedo*), the Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), the Mistletoe (*Viscum album*), and the Christmas Rose (*Helleborus niger*).

The Strawberry-tree is so called from the resemblance which its warted berries have to that well-known fruit. It is an evergreen shrub of rather large growth when mature, of bushy habit, forming an evergreen mass of great beauty, and remarkable for having at the commencement of the winter the flowers of the present year and the ripe berries of the preceding, both hanging in perfect clusters at the same time. The fruit, though ripening perfectly, is with us not at all pleasant in flavour, and has, therefore, only its ornamental properties to recommend it; but in the warmer climate of the south of Europe it is said to become better flavoured, and is used either preserved with sugar, or pickled with salt; the juice is also pressed out, and either converted into wine or vinegar, or a spirit resembling brandy is distilled from it. The stems of the tree have a reddish-brown bark. The leaves are obovate, or oblong-lanceolate, and saw-edged, smooth, and of a thickish or leathery texture. The flowers grow in drooping bunches from the ends of the young shoots, and consist of a calyx cleft into five pieces, a globose or ovate corolla contracted at the mouth, pinkish-green, and semi-transparent; ten stamens, which are hairy on the lower part of their filaments; the ovary growing into a largish globose berry of a fine scarlet colour, thickly covered over with hard granular points. It is a native plant found amidst the lovely scenery of Killarney, and belongs to the same family as the holly. It is one of the best and choicest of evergreen shrubs, and grows very well in any good garden earth, preferring a deep sandy loam. There are several varieties, not, however, differing very materially from the common sort.

The Holly is an indigenous tree, which has always been much admired no less for its utility than its beauty. It is a small evergreen tree, with a tendency to pyramidal growth, furnished with numerous smooth dark green leaves, with a wavy, sharply-spinous margin. The flowers are small, white, produced in May, succeeded by the bright scarlet fleshy berries so familiar in English homes at Christmas-tide. The holly, as a cultivated plant, claims attention as an ornamental evergreen shrub. There are numerous varieties, differing in peculiarities of their foliage—the variegated-leaved kinds being among the gayest of our shrubs, assisting by their variety of colour and marking in enlivening the garden in the dreary winter season. In allusion to the well-known practice of ornamenting chambers and dwelling-houses with holly at Christmas, it has been remarked that "the custom of placing evergreens in places of religious worship prevailed before the introduction of Christianity; but the evergreens originally used were branches of the pine-fir and cedar, and sprigs of box. Holly appears to have been first used for this purpose by the early Christians at Rome, and was probably adopted for decorating the churches at Christmas because it was used in the great festival of the Saturnalia, which occurred about that period. It was customary among the ancient Romans to send boughs of holly during the Saturnalia, as emblems of good wishes, with the gifts they presented to their friends at that season, and the holly became thus to be considered as an emblem of peace and good-will. It was for this reason, independently of any wish to conciliate the Pagans, well adapted to be an emblem of the principal festival of a religion which professes more than any other to preach peace and good-will to man." The holly grows well in any dryish soil, but prefers a sandy loam. The leaves and bark are bitter, and have been used in cases of intermittent fevers. It is said that they are equally efficacious with Peruvian bark.

The Mistletoe, well known at least to our youths and maidens, is a plant of very remarkable habit. It affords an example of true vegetable parasitism—of one kind of plant growing on, and being entirely nourished by, another. It has a much-divided, forked-branched stem, the base of which is deeply imbedded in the branch of its foster-parent; and the leaves grow in pairs at the end of the short branches, hard, leathery, flat, blunt, oblong. The flowers are quite inconspicuous, the male and female separate, the latter succeeded by the white, pellucid berries. It is a native plant, but is found also throughout Europe. The mistletoe, particularly that found on the oak (now very rarely seen), was held in great veneration by the ancient Druids. It has always been associated in our ideas with the remembrance of Christmas and its festivities. In the feudal ages it was gathered with great solemnity on Christmas-eve, and hung up in the great hall with loud shouts and rejoicings:—

On Christmas-eve the bells were rung;
On Christmas-eve the mass was sung;
That only night in all the year
Saw the stole priest the chalice rear.
The damsel donned her kirtle shewn;

The hall was dressed with holly green;
Forth to the woods did merry men go
To gather in the mistletoe.
Then opened wide the Baron's hall
To vassal, tenant, serf, and all.

Some slight medicinal properties have been attributed to this plant; but we believe it is now only esteemed "for the license which it gives to youths at Christmas time to salute the maidens who may be caught under it so long as a berry remains upon its branches."

The Christmas Rose is a Christmas flower, valued not only for its beauty, which is considerable, but for the season at which the flowers are produced. It is called the Christmas rose from its blooming about that season, and its flowers somewhat resembling those of the dog roses of our hedges. It belongs to the Ranunculus family, and has poisonous properties, so that it should be cautiously handled. It is a dwarf herbaceous perennial, growing in masses, from which numerous large white flowers are thrown up a few inches above the surface in December and January. These are at first quite white, but change gradually to pink; and, being very enduring, ultimately become greenish. This conspicuous part is the calyx, within which are placed five small tubular petals, a crowd of stamens, and a few unconnected ovaries. The leaves, which begin to grow up in spring, and continue throughout the year, forming a dense green mass, are of a singular form, to which the term pedate is applied. It is a native of the south of Europe.

Fade, flowers, fade; nature will have it so;
'Tis but what we must in our [winter] do;
And, as your leaves lie quiet on the ground,
The loss alone by those that loved them round.

So in the grave shall we as quiet lie,
Miss'd by some few that lov'd our company;
But some so like to thorns and nettles live,
That none or them can, when they perish, grieve.



NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

NOVEMBER.

THE SUN is south of the Equator throughout this month, and remains in the sign of Scorpio until 1h. 22m. P.M. of the 22nd, when it passes into that of Sagittarius.

The MOON is near Mercury on the morning of the 6th, near Venus on the morning of the 9th, near Mars on the 11th, near Uranus on the morning of the 21st, near Jupiter on the morning of the 22nd, and near Saturn on the night of the 25th. She is at her greatest distance from the Earth on the 10th, and at her least distance on the 22nd.

New Moon occurs at 48 minutes past 4 on the afternoon of the 5th.
First Quarter " 43 " 8 on the evening of the 13th.
Full Moon " 25 " 2 on the morning of the 21st.
Last Quarter " 35 " 5 on the afternoon of the 27th.

MERCURY is not favourably situated for observation during this month, being low down, and near the Sun. On the last day of the month it sets at 4h. 37m. P.M. in the S.W. It is in the constellation of Libra at the beginning, and in that of Sagittarius at the end, of the month. It is near the Moon on the morning of the 6th.

and Equuleus, whilst those of Hercules, Lyra, and Cygnus are descending to the N.W. The principal stars of Ursæ Major are nearly N., and W. of it is Draco. In the E. the whole of the constellation of Taurus and the belt of Orion appear above the horizon, whilst those of Aries and Cetus lie in the S.E. The constellation of Perseus lies between Andromeda, Taurus, and Auriga. In the N.E. by E. we see the two stars of Gemini, and below Cassiopeia are the constellations of Camelopardalus and Lynx.

TIME OF SOUTHING OF THE PRINCIPAL STARS WHICH PASS THE MERIDIAN BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 15TH OF NOVEMBER.

Alpha Pegasi 7h. 19m. P.M.	Pole Star 9h. 28m. P.M.
Alpha Andromedæ .. 8 22 "	Beta Arietis 10 8 "
Gamma Pegasi 8 27 "	Alpha Arietis 10 20 "
Alpha Cassiopeiæ .. 8 53 "	Alpha Ceti 11 16 "
Beta Ceti 8 57 "	Alpha Persei 11 35 "

On the 3rd of this month the celebrated variable star OMICRON CETI attains its greatest brightness, and will be a very conspicuous object in the constellation of the Whale during the latter part of October and beginning of



VARIABLE STAR OMICRON CETI, AND NEIGHBOURING STARS.

VENUS arrives at its greatest brilliancy on the 7th, but is too near the horizon, and too much obscured by the misty atmosphere, to be a very conspicuous object in Europe. It sets soon after the Sun in the S.W. horizon. On November 1 it sets at 5h. 58m. P.M., and on November 30 at 4h. 53m. P.M. It is at a less altitude above the horizon than the Sun at the time of the winter solstice, and, of course, remains a shorter time above the horizon. It is in the constellation of Ophiuchus at the beginning, and in that of Sagittarius at the end, of the month; and is stationary on the 23rd. It is near the Moon on the 8th.

MARS is almost invisible to the naked eye during this month. On November 1 it sets at 8h. 43m. P.M., and on November 30 at 8h. 52m. P.M., in the S.W. At the former time it is situated in the constellation of Sagittarius, and at the latter in that of Capricornus. It is near the Moon on the 11th.

JUPITER is now a splendid object, passing the meridian at 2h. 40m. A.M. of November 1, and at 28 minutes past midnight on the last day of the month; and remaining visible during the evening and night. It remains in the constellation of Taurus throughout this month, and is near the Moon on the 22nd.

SATURN is stationary on the 23rd, and near the Moon on the night of the 25th. It rises at 10h. 34m. P.M. of November 1, and at 8h. 42m. P.M. of November 30; and is a conspicuous object in the constellation of Cancer during the nights, although much inferior in lustre when compared to Jupiter. It is visible throughout the night.

At 9h. P.M. of the 15th of this month the constellation of Cassiopeia is near the zenith, and to the S. of it are those of Andromeda, Pisces, and the western part of Cetus. In the S.W. horizon are the constellations of Capricornus and Piscis Australis, and above it those of Aquarius and Pegasus. In the W. are the constellations of Aquila, Vulpecula, Delphinus,

November, and well situated for observation as it passes the meridian at 10h 34m P.M. on the 15th of November, when its position in the heavens will be known from the above diagram, the star itself being situated near the equator. This, which, at its first discovery, was termed the "Wonderful Star," still merits that designation, as it is the most remarkable of the variable stars yet known in the northern heavens, passing from the lustre of a star of the second or third magnitude to that of one of the eleventh or twelfth, if it does not completely disappear. The discovery of this star (partly due to accident) dates back as far as Aug. 13th, 1596, when David Fabricius perceived a star of the third magnitude in the neck of the Whale, which disappeared in the October of the same year; and it was again seen by Bayer in 1603. No further notice appears to have been taken of it until 1638, when Holwarda discovered the remarkable changes in its lustre which were afterwards frequently observed by subsequent astronomers; but the periodicity of these changes was first pointed out by Boulliaud, who proved that it arrived at its greatest lustre at intervals of 333 days, and that when brightest it scarcely changed in magnitude during fifteen days; and further remarked that it did not arrive at the same magnitude at each epoch of greatest lustre, being sometimes as bright as a star of the second, sometimes only of the third, magnitude, sometimes visible for three months, sometimes for four months. According to the most recent observations the period is 331 days 20 hours, and it takes on the average about fifty days to pass from the lustre of a star of the sixth magnitude to its greatest brightness, and sixty-nine days to decrease in lustre from its maximum light to that of a star of the sixth magnitude. It can be compared at its different periods of brightness with the stars Gamma, Delta, Zeta, Nu, Alpha and Beta Ceti, and with Alpha Piscium, the faintest of which is Nu, and the brightest Beta Ceti.

DECEMBER

1858



DECEMBER THIRTY-ONE DAYS.

Day of Month.	Day of Week.	ANNIVERSARIES, FESTIVALS, REMARKABLE EVENTS.	SUN.			MOON.			HIGH WATER AT				PLANETS.			
			Rises at Lon- don.	SOUTH.	SETS at Lon- don.	Rises at Lon- don.	SOUTH.	SETS at Lon- don.	LONDON BRIDGE.		LIVERPOOL DOCK.		Day of M.	Rise.	South.	Set.
			H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	H. M.	Morn.	Aftern.	Morn.	Aftern.		H. M.	H. M.	H. M.
1	W	Sun rises at Edinburgh 8h 9m	7 45	11 49	13 53	3 28	8 39	1 37	26 10 58	11 25	8 3	8 32	Mercury.	1 9 27 M	1 3 A	4 39 A
2	Th	Sun sets at Edinburgh 3h 28m	7 46	11 49	36 52	4 46	9 24	1 53	27 11 54	—	8 57	9 19		6 9 38	1 15	4 51
3	F	Sun rises at Dublin 7h 58m	7 48	11 49	59 51	6 2	10 11	2 12	28 0 19	0 41	9 42	10 4		11 9 43	1 23	5 3
4	S	Sun sets at Dublin 3h 41m	7 50	11 50	24 51	7 17	11 0	2 38	29 1 4	1 26	10 25	10 44		16 9 34	1 23	5 12
5	S	2ND S. in ADVENT	7 51	11 50	48 50	8 26	11 52	3 14	30 1 47	2 6	11 2	11 21		21 9 13	1 11	5 9
6	M	St. Nicholas	7 52	11 51	14 50	9 25	Aftern.	4 1	1 2 24	2 43	11 38	—	Venus.	26 8 36	0 39	4 42
7	Tu	Length of day at London 7h 57m	7 53	11 51	40 50	10 12	1 35	5 0	2 3 0	3 19	11 57	0 13		1 9 36	1 12	4 48
8	W	Conc. B. V. Mary	7 55	11 52	6 49	10 47	2 24	6 8	3 3 35	3 53	0 31	0 50		6 8 59	0 44	4 28
9	Th	Day breaks at 5h 51m	7 56	11 52	33 49	11 12	3 12	7 19	4 4 12	4 29	1 7	1 24		11 8 17	0 12	4 8
10	F	Twilight ends at 5h 55m	7 57	11 53	0 49	11 31	3 56	8 32	5 4 46	5 4	1 42	2 1		16 7 38	11 40 M	3 42
11	S		7 58	11 53	28 49	11 47	4 39	9 45	6 5 23	5 43	2 21	2 41	Mars.	21 6 54	11 9	3 23
12	S	3RD S. in ADVENT	7 59	11 53	56 49	11 58	5 21	10 57	7 6 3	6 25	3 3	3 25		26 6 21	10 41	3 0
13	M	St. Lucy	8 0	11 54	24 49	Aftern.	6 2	Morn.	8 6 47	7 9	3 47	4 14		1 0 0 A	4 26 A	8 54
14	Tu	Sun rises at Edinburgh 3h 29m	8 1	11 54	53 49	0 21	6 45	0 11	9 7 36	8 6	4 44	5 18		6 11 48 M	4 21	8 54
15	W	Sun sets at Edinburgh 3h 22m	8 2	11 55	22 49	0 33	7 30	1 26	10 8 40	9 13	5 51	6 21		11 11 33	4 16	8 59
16	Th	Cam. Term ends	8 3	11 55	51 49	0 48	8 19	2 47	11 9 43	10 16	6 54	7 27	Jupiter.	16 11 22	4 11	9 0
17	F	Oxf. Term ends	8 3	11 56	20 49	1 7	9 14	4 11	12 10 49	11 20	7 58	8 28		21 11 9	4 6	9 3
18	S	Length of day at London 7h 46m	8 4	11 56	50 50	1 37	10 14	5 41	13 11 50	—	8 54	9 22		26 10 57	4 1	9 5
19	S	4TH S. in ADVENT	8 5	11 57	19 50	2 19	11 20	7 9	14 0 16	0 44	9 47	10 13		1 4 15 A	0 28 M	8 36 M
20	M	Day breaks at 5h 59m	8 5	11 57	49 50	3 21	Morn.	8 27	15 1 9	1 35	10 38	11 6		6 3 53	0 5	8 13
21	Tu	St. Thomas	8 6	11 58	19 51	4 43	0 28	9 26	16 2 0	2 28	11 34	11 58	Saturn.	11 3 30	11 38 A	7 50
22	W	Twilight ends at 5h 58m	8 6	11 58	49 51	6 15	1 34	10 6	17 2 56	3 20	—	0 24		16 3 8	11 16	7 28
23	Th	Sun rises at Dublin 8h 18m	8 7	11 59	19 52	7 48	2 36	10 32	18 3 46	4 11	0 49	1 15		21 2 46	10 53	7 4
24	F	Sun sets at Dublin 3h 42m	8 7	11 59	49 52	9 17	3 31	10 52	19 4 37	5 0	1 38	2 5		26 2 24	10 31	6 42
25	S	CHRISTMAS DAY	8 8	12 0	18 53	10 41	4 22	11 6	20 5 27	5 51	2 29	2 54	Uranus.	1 4 15 A	0 28 M	8 36 M
26	S	1st S. aft. CHRIST.	8 8	12 0	4 54	12 0	5 9	11 20	21 6 16	6 41	3 19	3 43		6 3 53	0 5	8 13
27	M	St. John	8 8	12 1	18 55	Morn.	5 53	11 31	22 7 5	7 31	4 9	4 36		11 3 30	11 38 A	7 50
28	Tu	Innocents	8 8	12 1	48 55	1 18	6 38	11 44	23 7 58	8 24	5 2	5 34		16 3 8	11 16	7 28
29	W	Day breaks at 6h 2m	8 8	12 2	17 56	2 36	7 22	11 58	24 8 56	9 31	6 9	6 41		21 7 18	3 0	10 59
30	Th	Twilight ends at 6h 3m	8 8	12 2	46 57	3 52	8 9	Aftern.	25 10 3	10 37	7 15	7 49	Saturn.	26 6 55	2 39	10 13
31	F	Silvester	8 9	12 3	15 58	5 7	8 57	0 41	26 11 11	11 46	8 24	—		1 3 20	11 14 A	7 12

"THE COVEN." PAINTED BY J. WOLF.—FROM THE "ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS."



THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

DECEMBER.

THE SUN is south of the Equator during the month, and remains in the sign of Sagittarius until 2h. 12m. A.M. of December 22, when it passes into that of Capricornus, and the winter quarter commences.

The MOON is near Venus on the 6th, near Mercury on the morning of the 7th, near Mars on the 10th, near Uranus on the 18th, near Jupiter on the 19th, and near Saturn on the 22nd.

New Moon occurs at 10 minutes past 10 on the morning of the 5th.

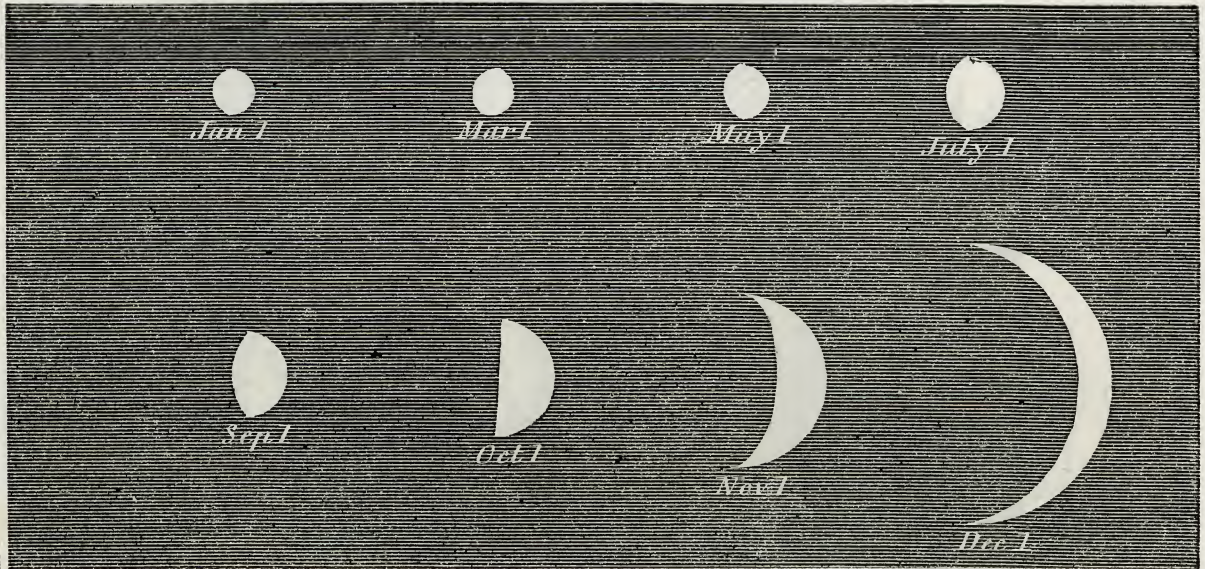
First Quarter " 29 " 3 on the afternoon of the 13th.

Full Moon " 6 " 1 on the afternoon of the 20th.

Last Quarter " 38 " 5 on the morning of the 27th.

It is most distant from the Earth on the 8th, and nearest to it on the 20th.

The phases of VENUS can be readily distinguished with an instrument of moderate dimensions furnished with a low power, and are most interesting when the planet is between the period of its greatest brightness, and its inferior conjunction with the Sun, which occurs this year during the present month. In order to view this object to advantage a concurrence of very favourable atmospheric circumstances is, however, requisite, in addition to the possession of a powerful telescope, when, on some rare occasions, faint spots have been noticed on its surface, the inner part of its crescent has been found to present a serrated appearance, and a slight (but very palpable) evidence of twilight has been noticed at the same part. These phenomena are readily explained by the different reflective powers of its surface (perhaps by land and sea divisions), by mountains of great



PHASES OF VENUS DURING THE YEAR 1858.

MERCURY is low down, but otherwise well situated for observation during this month. It arrives at its greatest easterly elongation on the morning of the 13th, and afterwards dwindles down to the slightest crescent shape, and is in inferior conjunction with the Sun on the morning of the 30th. It is in conjunction with Venus on the 2nd, near the Moon on the morning of the 7th, and stationary on the 20th. It is in the constellation of Sagittarius throughout the month.

The slight crescent of VENUS would be well seen, and is a very fine telescopic object, were it not for the low position of the planet, which is a great impediment to good definition and steadiness. It is in the constellation of Sagittarius at the beginning, and in that of Ophiuchus at the end, of the month. It souths at 1h. 12m. P.M. of the 1st, and at 10h. 17m. A.M. of the 31st; setting at the former time at 4h. 48m. P.M., and rising at the latter at 5h. 49m. A.M., when it will be the morning star. It is near the Moon on the 6th, and is in inferior conjunction with the Sun on the morning of the 14th.

MARS sets on Dec. 1 at 8h. 54 P.M., and on the 31st at 9h. 7m. P.M., but is a small and faint object. It is in the constellation of Capricornus at the beginning, and in that of Aquarius at the end, of the month. On the morning of the 4th, at six o'clock, it is very close to Iota Capricorni; on the morning of the 11th it is near the Moon; on the evening of the 16th it is near Mu Capricorni; and on the evening of the 26th it is close to Sigma Aquarii.

JUPITER is now a splendid object, and visible in the constellation Taurus throughout the night. It arrives at its shortest distance from the Earth on the 7th, and its diameter is then 45 seconds. It is near the Moon on the 19th. It souths at 28 minutes past midnight of the 1st, and at 10h. 9m. P.M. of the 31st.

SATURN is likewise well situated, and remains visible throughout the night in the constellation of Cancer. It is near the Moon on the 23rd. It souths on Dec. 1 at 4h. 21m. A.M., and on Dec. 31 at 2h. 18m. A.M.

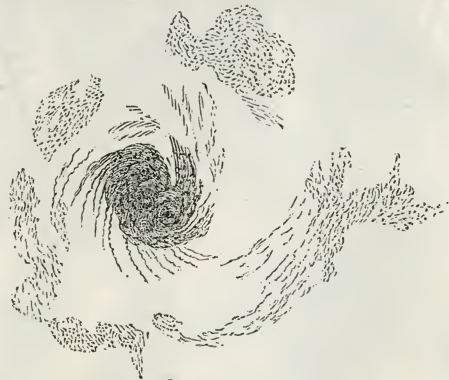
At 9 P.M. of the 15th of this month the northern heavens are crowded with stars, as if to make amends for the nakedness of the earth during the mid-winter. The brilliant constellations of Perseus, Taurus, Orion, Gemini, Canis Major and Minor, Auriga, Cancer, and Eridanus, appear in the S., and the stream of the Milky Way passes from Cassiopeia to Orion. Celebrated by the most ancient of the sacred and profane writers, the constellation of Orion has always been regarded as the most splendid in the heavens, nor does its interest pass away with a casual glance, for to this part of the sky the most powerful telescopes are directed in order to try their strength on the many mysterious objects in its neighbourhood. The constellation of Cetus is now S., and below the Equator and N. of it are those of Aries, Triangulum, Perseus, and Cassiopeia. Sirius now appears above the S.E. by E. horizon. The principal stars of Ursa Major are situated near the horizon in the N.N.E. In the W. we have Delphinus, Vulpecula, and Pegasus, and in the S.W. Pisces. A little to the W. of the zenith is Andromeda, and in the N.W. Lyra, Cygnus, Draco, and Cepheus.

TIME OF SOUTHING OF THE PRINCIPAL STARS WHICH PASS THE MERIDIAN BEFORE MIDNIGHT ON THE 15TH OF DECEMBER.

Alpha Andromedæ ..	6h. 55m.	Alpha Ceti ..	9h. 18m. P.M.
Alpha Cassiopeie ..	6 55 "	Alpha Persei ..	9 37 "
Beta Ceti ..	6 59 "	Alpha Tauri ..	10 51 "
Beta Arietis ..	8 10 "	Capella ..	11 29 "
Alpha Arietis ..	8 22 "	Rigel ..	11 31 "

height, and by an atmosphere surrounding the planet. But other phenomena have been witnessed which are more difficult of explanation, particularly that of the visibility of the dark part of the planet (completely cut off from the rays of the Sun), resembling in every respect a similar appearance at the time of New Moon, when the slight crescent of reflected Sun light and the whole disc of reflected Earth light are seen at the same time. Although easy of proof in regard to our own satellite, it is difficult to be accounted for in the case of Venus, unless we imagine it to be caused by the phosphorescent nature of the soil, by the illuminative power of the zodiacal light, or something similar to the Aurora Borealis. This appearance is, however, not always perceptible, and was not visible on the May of the present year, although looked for in the fine atmosphere of Italy by M. Secchi.

The dark spots on Venus and Mars are generally found to be permanent, but the bands on Jupiter and Saturn are subject to continual change. None of the bodies of the solar system are, however, so subject to change in respect of their surfaces as the Sun itself; and, after having been nearly free from spots for the last few years, some conspicuous ones appeared during 1857, particularly one remarkable one on May 5, in which the penumbra and nucleus were of a remarkable spiral form, presenting the appearance of a solar vortex or whirlwind.



SPOT ON THE SUN.

The above Sketch was taken by M. Secchi. A similar one was seen by M. Dawes on Jan. 17, 1852; a detailed account of which, and the other telescopic phenomena viewed on the solar disc, as well as on the planets and comets generally, is given in a little work on the "Planetary Worlds," published by Hardwicke, Piccadilly.

COMETS.

ONE of the greatest comets on record appeared in the month of July, 1264, which remained visible to the end of September of that year. It was first seen during the evenings after sunset, but appeared in its greatest splendour shortly afterwards, when it became visible during the mornings in the N.E., when the tail was perceived long before the comet itself rose above the horizon. The head, we are told, seemed like an obscure and ill-defined star, and the tail passed from this portion of it like expanded flames, stretching forth towards the mid-heavens to a distance of one hundred degrees from the nucleus. This great comet rose later and later every night; the tail became narrower and fainter, and at length finally disappeared. The chroniclers of the time duly mention the various remarkable events which occurred in Europe at this period, and in particular connect the appearance of the comet with the death of Pope Urban, who fell sick (they assert) on the very day when the comet was first seen, and died at the exact time it disappeared—viz., on the last day of September, 1264! This comet was likewise observed in China, and the descriptions agree with the statements of the European historians in re-

down in a chart by Fabricius, the path round the Sun has been calculated with much greater precision than in the former case; and during the past year a valuable collection of observations have been discovered by M. Littrow, at Vienna, which were made between Feb. 27 and April 19, 1556. A recalculation of the orbit of this comet as derived from the latter source differs, however, but very little from that previously determined, although it adds very considerably to the trustworthiness of the result. It is much to be desired, although little to be expected, that a similar extended series of observations were discovered of the great comet of 1264.

Judging from the physical appearances of the two comets, the splendour of the first and the ordinary character of the second, but little in common might be expected between them. This, however, is but slight evidence contrasted with the more rigid confirmation afforded by the form, the position, the direction of motion in the immense ellipse described by the comet round the Sun, its least distance from the latter body, and its inclination to the plane of the smaller circle described by our own Earth. No less than five different and distinct elements can be deduced of the path of any comet round the Sun; and, when



APPEARANCE OF THE GREAT COMET OF 1264.

spect to its immense dimensions and brightness, although it is rather difficult to reconcile the direction of its motion and its positions in the heavens as given by different observers. Notwithstanding this discordance, the path of the comet round the Sun has been calculated by astronomers from various combinations of those rough observations, and the results agree as well as might be expected. The chroniclers of the time relate that no one then living had ever seen the like of this comet, and very few of those recorded appear to have exceeded it in lustre. Among those which approached or were equal to it in size and brightness we might mention those of the years 1106, 1402, 1456, 1577, 1613, 1668, 1680, 1744, 1769, 1811, and 1843. The tail of the comet of 1613 was 104 degrees in length; that of 1680 90 degrees; that of 1769 was 97 degrees; and in tropical countries the tail of the comet of 1843 was observed to be 65 degrees in length, and the absolute length was 150 millions of miles. The tail of the comet of 1456 was 60 degrees in length—it was an apparition of the celebrated comet of Halley. The comets of 1532, 1744, and 1843 were seen in full sunlight.

In the year 1556 another comet made its appearance, but was not to be compared to that of 1264 in size or brightness, although it is stated to be as large as Jupiter. The tail, however, was only four degrees in length. The colour, according to one observer, was like that of Mars, but it afterwards became quite pale; and another eyewitness states that the end of the tail was always of a leaden hue. This comet remained visible from the beginning of March to the end of April. The celebrated Cardan describes it to be almost as bright as the half-moon, of a red and turbid colour, the tail short and curved like a flame blown aside by wind, and the head of a round shape. From the recorded positions of the comet as laid

those five coincide, the evidence is so strong, although circumstantial, that the identity of the two bodies may be regarded as almost certain. It is from these data that Halley concluded that the comets of 1378, 1456, 1531, 1607, and 1682, were one and the same, and predicted its return in 1759 and 1835; and on similar grounds he suspected that the comets of 1264 and 1556 were alike. In the case of the successive apparitions of the former comet, if the similarity of appearance only were taken into account, its imposing aspect in 1456 could hardly be reconciled with its faintness at other times. It might be also imagined that, if the comets of 1264 and 1556 were identical, the period of its revolution round the Sun would be constantly 292 years, and that there would be no error or difficulty in fixing its third appearance in 1843. The cause of this delay in its reappearance is, however, well known, arising from the action of the various bodies scattered round the Sun which retard the motion of the comet in its orbit, and prevent it from arriving at its shortest distance from the Sun at exact intervals of time. Thus, in the successive apparitions of Halley's comet it is found that, between its appearance in 1378 and 1456, 77 years and 212 days had elapsed; whilst between its appearance in 1607 and 1682 only 74 years and 332 days had elapsed. This influence is, however, brought within the range of strict calculation; and this task has lately been executed by M. Bommé, who finds that the return of the comet of 1264 and 1556 to perihelion will be delayed until the year 1858 or 1860 at latest.

Another astronomer (M. Hoek) is of opinion that the two comets of 1264 and 1556 are different bodies, and states that he cannot reconcile the orbit given from the extended series of observations made during 1556 with the Chinese observations of 1264. The path described by the comet

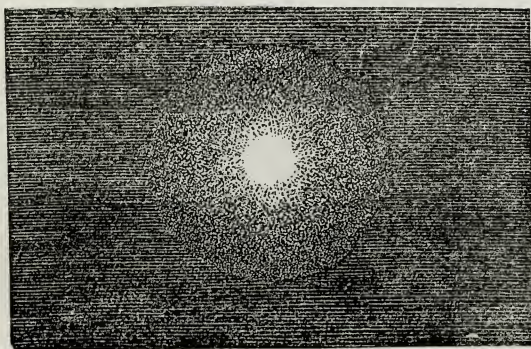
of 1264, as deduced from the Chinese positions, is very different, particularly in the inclination and least distance from the Sun, from that of 1556; and the elements are much more different from one another than the elements of other comets which were never considered to be the same. Nor does he find that this change in the path could have arisen from any planetary disturbances, although the planets Mars and Saturn were near the comet in 1264, though not so near as to cause such great change. He is also of opinion that it is very improbable that the comet of 975 (which is supposed to have been a former appearance of the great comet), and those of 1264 and 1556, are similar bodies. He wishes it to be borne in mind, however, that this result depends on the observations of the tenth and thirteenth centuries, the accuracy of which admits of great doubt.

From the activity displayed in the discovery of comets during the past year, we may feel assured that the return of this comet (if periodical) cannot pass away unnoticed, and that it will be detected as soon as it comes within range of the power of the best telescopes. No less than five comets were discovered during the first nine months of the last year, most of which were very faint, and none of them visible to the naked eye during their whole course.

Comet I. (1857) was discovered by M. D'Arrest on Feb. 23. The nucleus was stellar and well defined, and almost as bright as a star of the seventh magnitude.

Comet II., 1857, was discovered by M. Bruhn, on March 18, 1857; but was subsequently found to be an appearance of Brorsen's periodical comet, which was detected in 1846. It was faint and ill defined, and did not present any appearance of a nucleus at first.

Comet III. of 1857 was bright and well defined, and, favourably



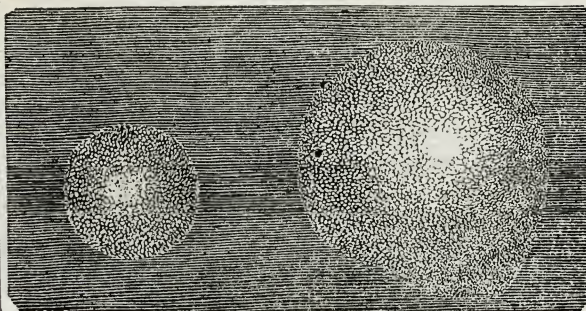
KLINKERFUES' COMET ON JUNE 25, 1857.

situated, would have doubtless been seen by the naked eye. It arrived at perihelion on July 18. It was discovered by M. Klinkerfues, at Gottingen.

SOLAR ECLIPSE OF MARCH 15, 1858.

THE phenomena attending eclipses of the Sun are numerous and striking, and will, doubtless, be observed with as great care in the eclipse of March as in those which happened in the years 1842 and 1851. The latter eclipses were seen to great advantage, and the various appearances have been described with great minuteness and detail by the astronomers who travelled to those parts of Europe where the eclipses were total and central. Although the eclipse of the present year will scarcely be equal to those in interest (as the obscuration of the Sun's disc will not be altogether complete), yet, as it is the most considerable of any that has happened, or will happen, for many years in the British Islands, a short notice of the phenomena which may be expected to occur may not be misplaced. In the present instance the diameters of the Sun and Moon are so nearly alike that the eclipse will be nearly total; only a very slender thread of light will be seen surrounding the Moon at the instant of greatest darkness; but the duration of this bright ring of light will not exceed thirteen seconds in England, and it has been calculated that the augmentation of the Moon's diameter during the eclipse will cause it to be total in the

vicinity of the Island of Madeira. Under the most favourable circumstances of an annular eclipse the Moon may remain on the disc of the Sun for nine minutes and fifty-six seconds; and in a total eclipse the Sun's disc may be completely obscured for a space of six minutes.

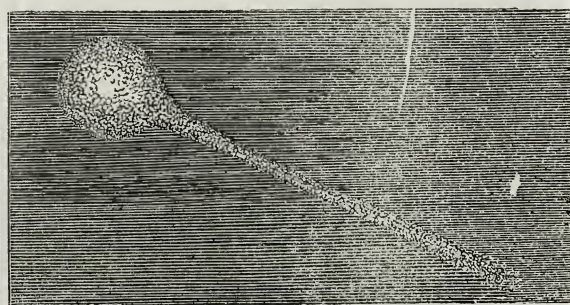


DIÉN'S COMET ON
AUG. 17, 1857.

KLINKERFUES' COMET, AT MIDNIGHT,
SEPT. 5, 1857.

for a short period. It was detected by M. Dién, at Paris, in the latter part of July.

Comet V. was likewise discovered by M. Klinkerfues, on August 20, and was a conspicuous object in a telescope. On Sept. 5 it was very ill



KLINKERFUES' COMET, AT 8 H. P.M., SEPT. 16 1857.

defined in the north-eastern part, and a tail was then suspected. On the night of Sept. 16 a faint tail was first visible, which was long and narrow, and which increased considerably in size until the 20th. This comet bears some resemblance to those of 1790 and 1825.

One of the most remarkable appearances which occurs during a total eclipse of the Sun is the crown of bright white light which surrounds the dark body of the Moon at the time of total obscurity, and marks the position

of the Island of Madeira. Under the most favourable circumstances of an annular eclipse the Moon may remain on the disc of the Sun for nine minutes and fifty-six seconds; and in a total eclipse the Sun's disc may be completely obscured for a space of six minutes. The darkness which prevails even during a total eclipse of the Sun is much less than might be expected; and, even when the Sun has been completely hid for a space of between four and five minutes, the light was estimated at the instant of total obscurity to be as great as that of the full Moon. During an annular eclipse the chink of sunshine dispels nearly all darkness. Bailly, who observed the annular eclipse of 1836 to considerable advantage, states that the darkness during the period of the annulus was not greater than that caused by a temporary cloud passing over the Sun; the light, however, he remarked, was of a peculiar character, being something like that produced by the Sun shining through a morning mist. The effect of this partial darkness on animals is very remarkable, and similar in all respects to the closing in of night.

One of the most remarkable appearances which occurs during a total eclipse of the Sun is the crown of bright white light which surrounds the dark body of the Moon at the time of total obscurity, and marks the position

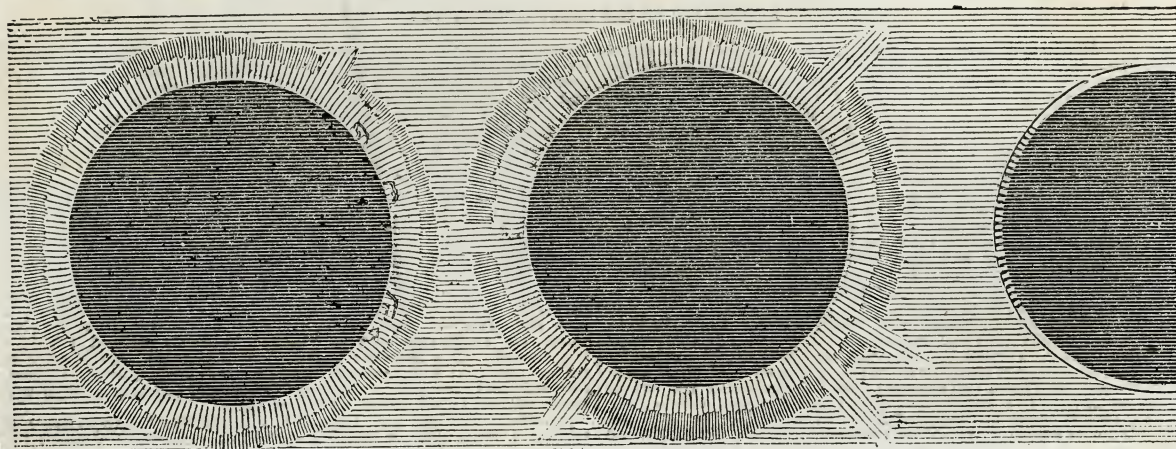


FIG. 1.

FIG. 2.

FIG. 3.

of both luminaries in the heavens. This crown generally takes a radiating form, some of the rays being much longer than others, as in Fig. 2 of the accompanying Diagram, which is copied from the description by M. Schmidt, of the total eclipse of July, 1851. This is generally supposed to be due to an atmosphere surrounding the Sun. In addition to this phenomenon, which has been seen at nearly every total eclipse, several rose-coloured prominences of irregular shape in immediate contact with the dark edges of the Moon were perceived with the greatest distinctness in the eclipses of 1842 and 1851. The first figure shows the form and position of those crimson protuberances, from which it will be seen that they are of fantastic shapes and at unequal distances apart. These are likewise generally supposed to have some connection with the atmosphere of the Sun, and to be the same as the bright and irregular streaks of light sometimes seen on its disc, and known by the name of faculae. The most prominent of those rose-coloured spots were connected by a line of the same bright crimson tint, and the two lower ones presented an appearance similar to that of a flame blown aside by the wind (Fig. 4). These

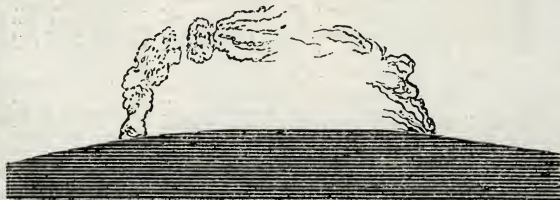


FIG. 4.

appearances have been observed in a greater or less degree in almost every other eclipse of the Sun, but have not been described with such minuteness. It would be desirable to note the form and position of all the dark spots and faculae on the sun's disc for a few days previous to and following the eclipse. The faculae are always most conspicuous at the margins of the Sun, and, like the spots, confined to the Sun's equatorial zone.

A remarkable appearance was noticed by Mr. Baily during the well-remembered annular eclipse of 1836, which had likewise been seen in former ones, although not apparently to such advantage. Just before the Moon was projected completely on the Sun, and the annulus formed, and when the dark margin of the Moon was almost in contact with the bright margin of the Sun, a number of dark lines or breaks were noticed in the thread of light on the western side of the Sun. This presented the appearance of a number of bright beads strung together (Fig. 3). As the Moon advanced on the Sun's disc those projections, which at first had the appearance of lunar mountains in high relief, seemed to increase in size, and were stretched out in the form of long dark lines, and, when the Moon was fairly projected on the Sun, they suddenly gave way, and the expected narrow thread of light of the annulus made its appearance. A similar row of lucid points was noticed just previous to the disappearance of the annulus when the eastern margins of the Sun and Moon were in contact, and, in fact, every appearance as at the beginning, but in an inverse order. It was noticed that these bright beads became more and more rounded the closer the margins of the Sun and Moon were in contact. They did not remain visible for more than six or eight seconds.

Although the rose-coloured prominences have been most conspicuously visible during total eclipses (and the same remark applies to the corona), yet similar appearances have been well seen during annular, and even partial, eclipses. In the annular eclipse of February 18, 1736, a portion of the corona was distinctly seen at that part of the Moon's circumference which had not yet entered upon the solar disc, and when a considerable part of the Sun was yet uncovered. In the annular eclipse of September 1820, just before the annulus was formed, a very small arch of light was perceived at that part of the Sun's disc yet unobscured, which appeared like a thin reddish thread of light, and might be compared, both as to colour and appearance, with the end of the flame of an Argand lamp. In the annular eclipse of May, 1836, shortly before the formation of the annulus, and when the cusps of the Sun were thirty or forty degrees from each other, an arch of faint red light was seen to extend between them, and this appearance lasted several seconds. Similar phenomena were

seen in the United States during the eclipses of February, 1838 and 1847. In the partial eclipse visible at London on June 28, 1666, a small part of the disc of the Moon without the Sun was visible. In the excellent suggestions issued by the British Association for the observation of the total eclipse of July 29, 1851, it is stated, by an oversight, that the corona and red flames are only visible at the time of a total eclipse; but from the above observations it would appear that we may expect to see something of those phenomena during the present one, although not to such perfection as when the darkness is complete.

Some of the brighter stars and planets may be expected to be seen at the instant of total obscurity: Jupiter will be two hours and a half to the east of the meridian at this moment, and high up; Venus will be a little to the east of the Sun, and nearly in the same parallel; and Mercury will be to the west of the Sun and more than five degrees south of it. The principal stars in Lyra, Aquila, Cygnus, Pegasus, Andromeda, Aries, Perseus, Taurus, and Auriga, and the Pole Star, may also be looked for, and the places of such stars as are seen should be noted, so as to be able to identify them afterwards. In the "Suggestions" of the British Association for the observation of the last eclipse, it is recommended, among the coarser kinds of observation to be made with the naked eye, for the observer to notice whether bushes of light radiate from the corona; in what number and what direction; whether there are beams in the direction of the ecliptic, like pyramids, with their bases united at the Sun, in the manner of the Zodiacal light; whether there is a red band of light near the horizon or in any part of it; whether the outlines of hills can be seen; whether the smoke of chimneys can be seen; whether any plants (as the sensitive plant, the *convolvulus*, or the silk-tree *acacia*) close their leaves or petals; whether animals appear frightened; whether the light of the Sun appears to sweep over the country; whether there is any fluctuation of light on the ground or on walls; and, also, whether dew or fog is formed. To those observers furnished with a telescope it is recommended that they direct their attention as to whether the points of the cusps are rounded; whether in the neighbourhood of the cusp the light either of the Sun or Moon appears distorted; whether the beads of light before mentioned appear steady or waving, disappearing and reappearing; whether they present any peculiar changes when viewed through differently-coloured glasses—the observer alternating the colours, which should be as dissimilar as possible, such as red and green; whether the beads are seen when the telescope is out of focus; whether they are seen when the eclipse is projected on a screen; the drawing out of the beads into threads when very near junction, and whether they waver and change, and the number of them; whether before and after the formation of the threads the Moon's dark disc is elongated towards the point of contact; as the beads are ascribed by some to lunar mountains, what mountains exist at that part of the limb; the exact interval of time before the first formation of beads and the first complete contact, and that between the last complete contact and the last disappearance of beads (or other irregularities in or about the cusps), should be determined; the remarkable fact of a recurrence of cusps, and the possible explanation of it, should be attentively considered. To those observers who may devote themselves to the phenomena of the rose-coloured prominences it is recommended, immediately before the total obscuration, to watch for the appearance of the prominences on all parts of the Sun's limb, but particularly at the part just about to be eclipsed by the Moon's limb; and to direct their second scrutiny to the diametrically opposite portion of the Moon's limb, watching for the summits of any prominences, and whether they enlarge as the total eclipse proceeds. In the third place, the observer should carefully examine the Moon's limb all round, and record the positions of any visible. The dimensions and forms of the prominences should be studied, whether they are hard and permanent, or with waving and ill-defined outlines; whether they are invariably broadest at the base, and have on the whole a tapering shape; whether they are seen to stand erect, or whether any or all of them are aslant, like teeth on the edge of a circular saw; whether they vary in outline during the scrutiny, or appear to grow up or to diminish. As the total phase goes off, let the eye be fixed on one or more of the prominences, and see whether they instantly or totally vanish, and for how many seconds they may be kept in view.

An excellent account of the Annular Eclipse of May 26, 1854, as observed in Canada, appears in the ILLUSTRATED LONDON NEWS of June of that year. Figures 5, 6, and 7 respectively represent the phases of the eclipse at London at 0h. 21m. P.M., 1h. 03m. P.M., and 1h. 39m. P.M. of March 15th, 1858, as they will appear to the naked eye. The greatest obscuration takes place at 1h. P.M.

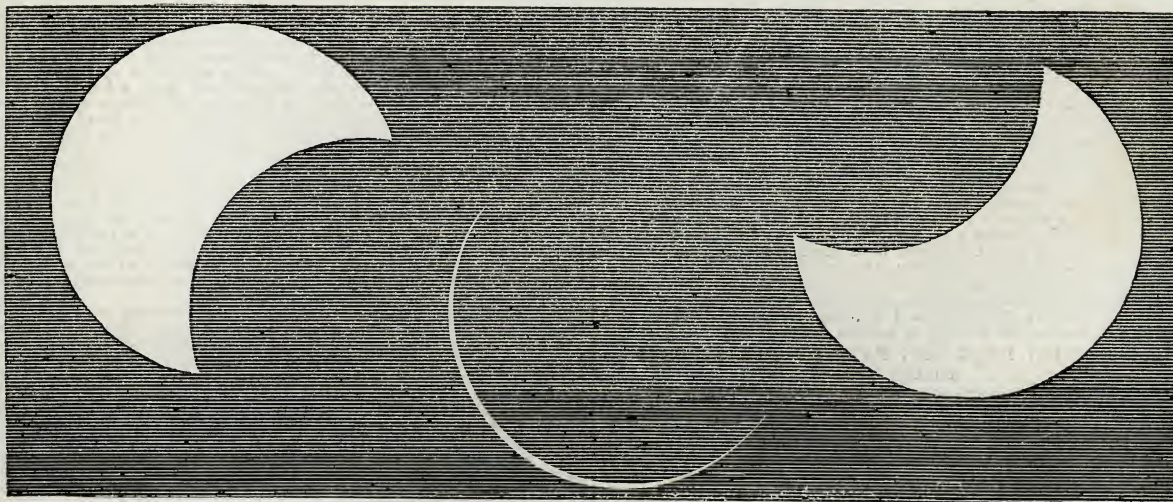


FIG. 5.

FIG. 6.

FIG. 7.

THE ILLUSTRATED LONDON ALMANACK FOR 1858.

POSTAL REGULATIONS.

THE LONDON DISTRICT POST.

The London district post is now divided into ten postal districts. The following are the names of the districts, with their abbreviations:—

East Central ..	E.C.	South-Eastern ..	S.E.
West Central ..	W.C.	Southern ..	S.
Northern ..	N.	South-Western ..	S.W.
North-Eastern ..	N.E.	Western ..	W.
Eastern ..	E.	North-Western ..	N.W.

By the addition of the initials of the postal districts to the ordinary addresses of letters for London and its neighbourhood, the public would greatly facilitate the arrangements of the Post Office, and consequently a much earlier delivery of their letters. For the purpose of affording the necessary information a complete "Street Directory" has been published, by command of the Postmaster-General, price one penny.

The principal office is at the General Post Office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, in the East Central District, where letters may be posted up to six o'clock, and by affixing an extra penny stamp one hour later for the last dispatch—viz., seven P.M.

The letter-boxes at receiving-houses are for the receipt of inland, foreign, ship, and London district post letters, with the exception of those called Branch Offices at 63, Cheapside; 25, Cornhill; 15, Charing-cross; and 152, Oxford-street, at which places London district letters cannot be received. Unpaid letters, and letters bearing adhesive stamps, or inclosed in stamped covers, must be dropped into the box, and paid letters taken into the office. All inland and London district letters must be prepaid by stamps, but foreign and colonial letters may be paid either in money or stamps, at the option of the sender. General Post letters posted after half-past five o'clock cannot be forwarded the same evening, unless stamped with an extra postage stamp as a fee, the postage also being prepaid by stamps. Newspapers intended to pass by the General Post the same night must be posted before five o'clock.

Letters and newspapers intended for delivery within the London district should be posted either at the chief office, or at a receiving-house, and not at any of the Branch Offices; otherwise delay will occur in forwarding them.

Newspapers pass free by the London district post, except in those cases where they shall be posted and delivered within a circle of three miles from the General Post Office, when each newspaper will become liable to a postage of one penny, which must be prepaid by affixing a postage stamp.

The date stamp on letters, or, if there be more than one, that having the latest hour, shows the day and hour it was dispatched from the chief office for delivery. Persons having occasion to complain of their letters being delayed are requested to transmit to the Secretary, General Post Office, the covers, with a statement of the time of posting and delivery, as the date and stamp will assist materially in tracing their course.

To prevent the possibility of letters being surreptitiously obtained from the offices where posted, office-keepers are strictly prohibited returning, to any persons whatsoever, letters that may be applied for, under whatever circumstance the recovery may be urged.

Letters posted at the pillar letter-boxes before five A.M. are sent out by the first delivery in London, and by the morning mails to the provinces. Letters to be registered must be taken to the receiving-houses half an hour before each dispatch is made.

Letters posted at receiving-houses in London before six, or at the chief office before seven, P.M., are delivered at places within three miles (having six deliveries daily) from the General Post Office the same evening.

The times by which letters should be posted at the receiving-houses, for every delivery in the day, and the times at which they are dispatched for delivery, are as follow:—

If posted at Receiving Houses, or Pillar Letter Boxes, by	Or in the Principal Office by	Are sent out for Delivery at
	Hours	Hours
Morning .. 9	Morning .. 1 before 10	Morning .. 10
" .. 11	" .. 12	Noon .. 12
Noon .. 12	Noon .. 1	Afternoon .. 1
Afternoon .. 1	Afternoon .. 2	" .. 2
" .. 2	" .. 3	" .. 3
" .. 3	" .. 4	" .. 4
" .. 4	" .. 5	" .. 5
" .. 5	Evening .. 6	Evening .. 6
Evening .. 6	" .. 7	Night .. 8
" .. 10	10 (or bef. 6.30 next M.)	Next morning first del.

Letters posted at the principal office three-quarters of an hour later will be delivered at the same time.

Each delivery should be completed generally within one hour and a quarter after the stated time at which the letters are sent out, varying according to distance and number to be delivered.

DISPATCHES FROM THE SUBURBS TO LONDON.

Letters posted in time for the morning dispatch are sent out for delivery at twelve from the principal office. If posted for the noon dispatch, they are sent out for delivery at three o'clock. If for the afternoon dispatch, they are sent out for delivery at eight o'clock in the evening; and if posted for the night collection, they are dispatched early on the following morning, and are sent out by the first delivery. In addition to the above there is an extra dispatch from all the principal places within the six-mile circle at eleven o'clock A.M., and the letters fall into the one o'clock delivery. There is also a dispatch from the following places at three o'clock P.M.:—Islington, Holloway, Hackney, Kingsland, Kent-road, Walworth, Camberwell, Newington Butts, South Lambeth, Camden-town, Somers-town, Bayswater, Brixton, Brompton, Chelsea, Clapham, Kensington, Paddington, Stockwell, and St. John's Wood. Letters by this dispatch are sent out for delivery in London at five o'clock.

DISPATCHES FROM ONE PART OF THE SUBURBS TO ANOTHER.

If going from one part of a ride or district to another part of the same ride or district, and posted for the morning dispatch, they are delivered, through the means of a by-post arrangement, the same day at noon. If posted for the afternoon dispatch, they are delivered the same evening, where an evening delivery is given. If going to parts not belonging to the same ride, they come to London: such letters put into the post for the morning dispatch are delivered in the country the same evening, where an evening delivery is given; if for the afternoon dispatch, the next morning, where a morning delivery is given; or otherwise at noon.

LONDON DISTRICT MONEY-ORDER OFFICES.

Chief Office: Aldersgate-street, E.C. Branch Offices: Borough, S.E.; Charing-cross, W.C.; Old Cavendish-street, W.; Sherborne-lane, E.C.

Acton ..	W.	Clerkenwell-green E.C.	Hendon ..	N.W.	Richmond ..	S.W.
Albany-street ..	N.W.	Commercial-road ..	Highgate ..	E.	Romford ..	E.
Aldgate ..	E.	East ..	High Holborn ..	W.C.	Rotherhithe ..	S.E.
Ashley-crescent ..	N.	Conduit-street ..	Holloway ..	N.	St. John's Wood ..	N.W.
Ball's Pond ..	N.	Paddington ..	Hounslow ..	W.	Shadwell ..	E.
Barking ..	E.	Coventry-street ..	House of Commons S.W.		Shooter's Hill ..	S.E.
Barnet ..	N.	Soho ..	(issuing orders only)		Shoreditch ..	N.E.
Barnsbury ..	N.	Crayford ..	Hoxton ..	N.W.	Sloane-street ..	S.W.
Battersea ..	S.W.	Croydon ..	Isleworth ..	W.	Southall ..	W.
Battle-bridge ..	N.	Dalston ..	Islington ..	N.	Southgate ..	N.
Bayswater ..	W.	Deptford ..	Kennington-cross S.		Stammore ..	N.W.
Beckenham ..	S.E.	(See Broadway and Grove-street.)	Kenington ..	N.W.	Stoke Newington ..	N.
Bethnal-green ..	N.E.	Dockhead ..	Kenish-town ..	W.	Strand ..	W.C.
Brixton ..	S.	Dulwich ..	Kew ..	W.	Stratford ..	E.
Bi-hogsgate-street ..	E.C.	Ealing ..	Kilburn ..	N.W.	Streatham ..	S.
Blackheath-road S.E.		East India-road E.	Kingsland-road N.E.		Sunbury ..	S.W.
(See <i>Tranquil Vale</i> .)		Edgware ..	Kings-ton ..	W.C.	Sutton, Surrey ..	S.
Bloomsbury ..	W.C.	Edgeware-road ..	King-street, Co-		Sydenham ..	S.E.
Bow ..	E.	Edmonton ..	tedging ..	W.	Teddington ..	S.W.
Bow-road, Wilby-terrace ..	E.	Elkham ..	Kingsbridge S.W.		Tooley-street ..	S.E.
Brentford ..	W.	Enfield ..	Lambeth ..	S.	Tooting ..	S.
Brixton-hill ..	S.	Erith ..	Lewisham ..	N.E.	Tottenham ..	N.
Broadway, Deptford ..	S.E.	Feston-square ..	Leytonstone ..	N.E.	Tottenham-court-road ..	S.W.
Bromley, Kent ..	S.E.	Finchley ..	Limhouse ..	E.	Tranquil Vale ..	E.
Brompton-row ..	S.W.	Finsbury-place E.C.	Limehouse ..	E.	Upper Baker-street ..	N.W.
Brompton, Queen's Elm ..	S.W.	Fleet-street ..	Millwall ..	E.	Upper Berkeley-st. W.	
Camberwell-green S.		Foot's Cray ..	Mortlake ..	S.W.	Upper Clapton ..	N.E.
Camden-road ..	N.W.	Goswell-road ..	Mount-street ..	N.W.	Vauxhall ..	S.
Camden-town ..	N.W.	Gray's Inn-road W.C.	Mount-street, Grosvenor-sq.		Walham-green ..	S.W.
Canning-town ..	E.	Great Court-st. Soho	New Cross ..	S.E.	Walham-cross N.	
Carshalton ..	S.	Great Ilford ..	Newington Butts S.		Waltham-st. N.E.	
Chancery-lane ..	W.C.	Great Marylebone street ..	New North-road S.E.		Walthamstow ..	N.E.
Charlton ..	S.E.	Great Tower-st. E.C.	North Brixton ..	S.	Walworth ..	S.
Chelsea ..	W.	Greenwich ..	Norwood, Surrey	W.	Wandsworth ..	S.W.
Chigwell ..	N.E.	Grove-street ..	Notting Hill ..	S.W.	Wapping ..	E.
Chiswick ..	S.E.	Hampstead ..	Old Kent road ..	S.	Waterloo-road ..	S.
Churton-street ..	S.W.	Hampton ..	Oxford-street ..	N.W.	Westminster ..	S.W.
Clapham ..	S.	Hampton Court S.W.	Panorama ..	N.W.	Whetstone ..	N.
Clapham-road ..	S.	Harlow ..	Parkway ..	S.W.	Whitechapel ..	E.
		Harrow-road ..	Ratcliff-cross E.		Wimbledon ..	N.W.
			Regent-street ..	W.	Woodford ..	S.E.
					Woolwich ..	S.E.
					Woolwich Arsenal S.E.	
					Wotton, Dorking S.E.	

NEW BOOK-POSTAGE REGULATION.

A book, or any number of books, publications, or works of literature or art (including stamped newspapers published more than fifteen days, and unstamped newspapers of any date), either without a cover or in a cover open at the ends, provided the packet do not exceed two feet in length, may be transmitted by post within the United Kingdom at the following rates:—4 oz. and under, 1d.; 8 oz. and under, 2d.; 16 oz. and under 4d., and every additional 8 oz. or fractional part, 2d.

Packets, if stamped to the value of 4d. or more, may contain books, bound or unbound, written, printed, or plain, almanacks, prints, maps, book-markers, pens, pencils, or other book-furniture, but no letter. Packets not stamped to the value of 4d. must consist of printed matter only, except that the address may be written both without and within. Newspapers, folded with the stamp outside, posted within fifteen days of publication, free; unstamped, not exceeding 4 oz. in weight, 1d.; to any of the Colonies, stamped or unstamped, 1d. (via any foreign country, 2d.).

PENALTIES.—A book-packet containing a letter, or not being open at the ends, or measuring above two feet in length, or unstamped, to be charged double letter postage. A packet of printed matter, on which less than 4d. has been paid, containing any written matter besides the address, or insufficiently stamped, to be charged the deficiency and 4d. extra. A letter found in a book-packet will be forwarded to its address, charged double postage and 4d. extra.

FOREIGN AND COLONIAL LETTERS AND NEWSPAPERS.

LETTERS.—Where the dispatch takes place in the evening, letters can be posted at the receiving-houses throughout the metropolis until 5.30 P.M., or with a fee of one penny in addition to the postage, which, as well as the fee, must be paid in stamps, until 6 P.M.; at the Branch Post-offices at Charing-cross, Old Cavendish-street, and Stones End, Borough, until 6 P.M.; or with a fee of one penny in addition to the postage, which, as well as the fee, must be paid in stamps, until 6.45 P.M.; at the Lombard-street office until 5.50 P.M. if paid in money, and until 6 P.M. if unpaid or paid in stamps; and letters paid in money, and with a fee of one penny, until 6.50 P.M., and until 7 P.M. if the postage and fee be paid in stamps; at the General Post Office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, until 6 P.M., and until 7 P.M. with a fee of one penny, which, as well as the postage, may be paid either in money or by stamps; and until 7.30 P.M. with a fee of sixpence. Where the dispatch takes place in the morning, letters are in time at the receiving-houses until 10 P.M. the previous day, and at the Lyall-place receiving-house until 7 A.M.; and at the Charing-cross, Old Cavendish-street, and Borough Branch Offices until 7.15 A.M.; at the General Post Office and at the Branch Office in Lombard-street until 7.45 A.M. For the Foreign and Colonial mails letters are in time at the Charing-cross, Old Cavendish-street, and Borough Branch Offices until 8 A.M.; at the General Post Office and at the Branch Office in Lombard-street until 8.30 A.M. For the morning French mail letters may be posted at the receiving-houses and Branch Offices up to 11 A.M.; at Lombard-street and the Chief Office up to 11.45 A.M.

NEWSPAPERS for those mails dispatched in the evening must be posted at the receiving-houses before 5 P.M.; at the Branch Post Offices before 5.30 P.M.; and at the General Post Office, St. Martin's-le-Grand, before 6 P.M. Those for mails dispatched in the morning must be posted at the receiving-houses before 10 P.M. the previous day; at the Branch Offices, Charing-cross, Old Cavendish-street, and Borough, before 6.45 A.M.; and at the General Post Office and Branch Office in Lombard-street before 7 A.M. For the Colonial mails newspapers are in time at the Branch Offices before 7.30 A.M.; at the General Post Office and at the Branch Office in Lombard-street until 7.45 A.M. For the morning French mails newspapers may be posted at the receiving-houses and Branch Offices up to 11 A.M., and at the Lombard-street and chief office until 11.15 A.M. Letters and newspapers brought by the mails arriving in London are always forwarded by those colonial and foreign mails made up on the same mornings.